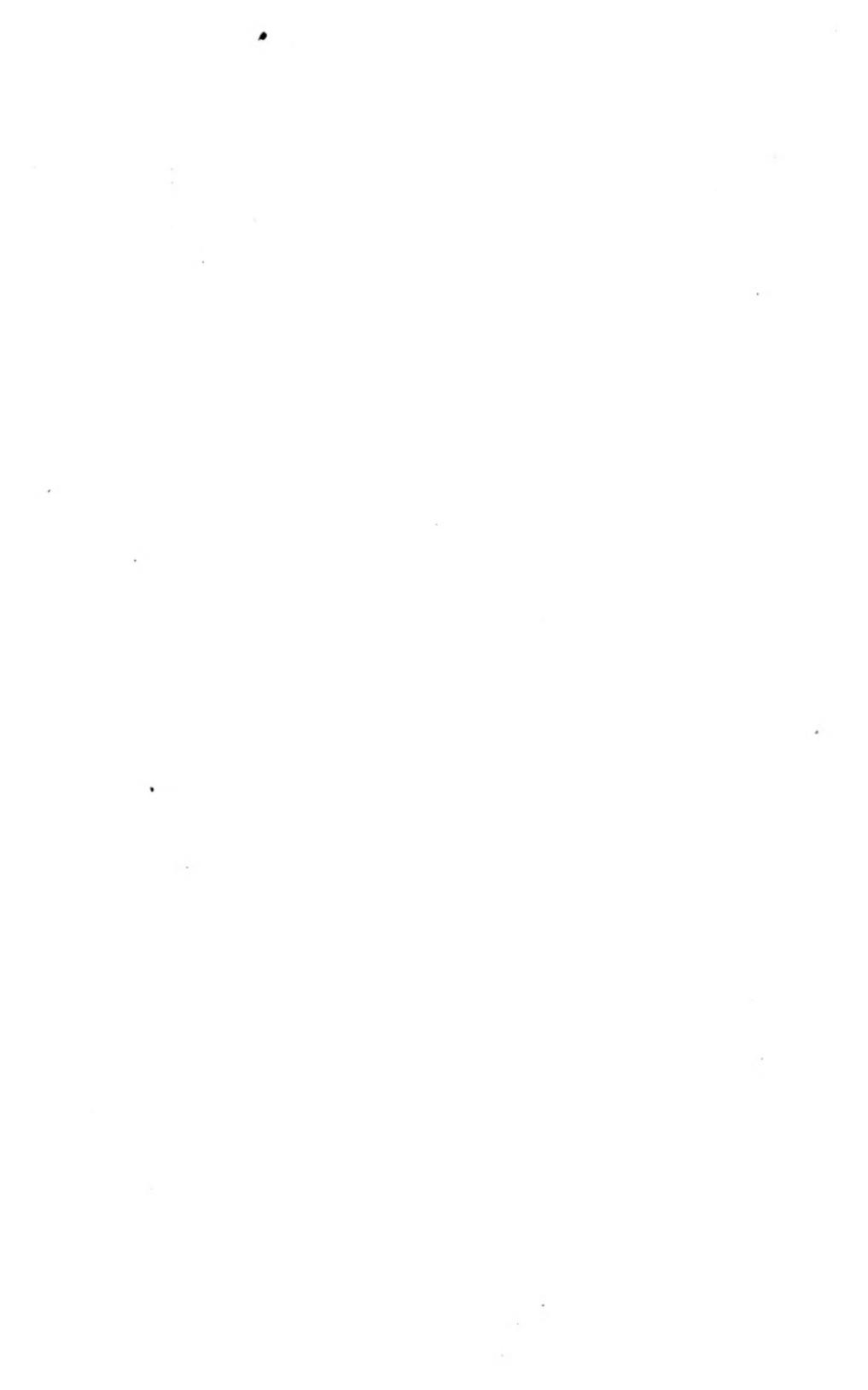


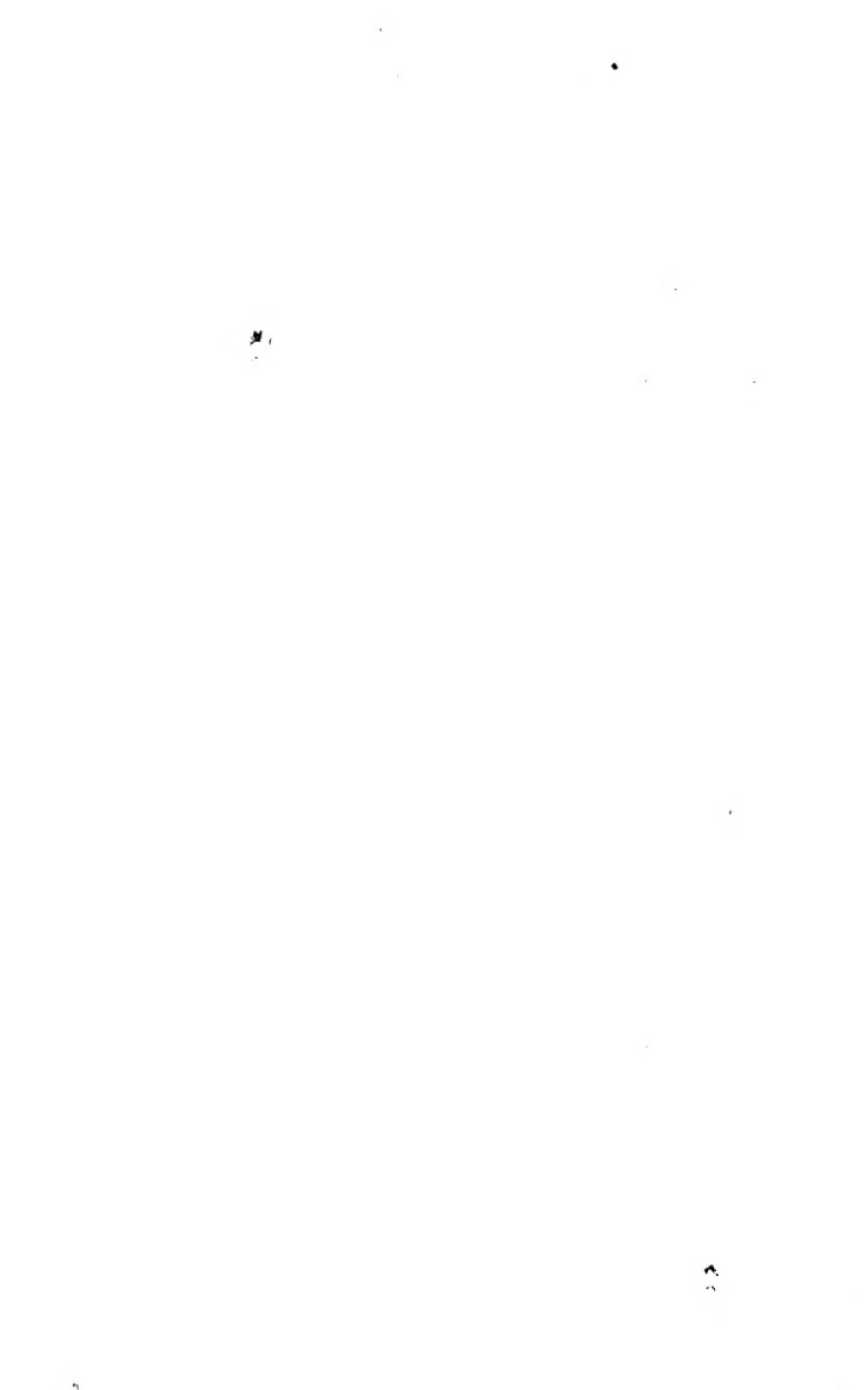
Lay

**A sketch of the
history of
Benton County,
Missouri**

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HISTORY
OF
Benton County,

MISSOURI.

BY

AMES H. DAY.

Entered in the General Catalogue of the U. S. M. G.

At Washington, D. C.





A

S K E T C H

— OF THE —

History of Benton County,

MISSOURI,

— BY —

JAMES H. LAY.

Prepared for the Centennial Celebration of July 4th, 1876,
at Warsaw, Missouri.



HANNIBAL, MO.:
The Winchell & Ebert Printing and Lithographing Company.
1876.

— 15.

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PREFACE.

I was selected to prepare a Sketch of the History of Benton County, Missouri, in response to the following resolution and proclamation :

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, A joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States was duly approved on the 13th day of March last, which resolution is as follows:

Be it Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled:

That it be and is hereby recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives, to the people of the several States, that they assemble in their several counties or towns on the approaching centennial anniversary of our national independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day a historical sketch of such county or town from its foundation, and that a copy of said sketch be filed in print or manuscript in the clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy in print or manuscript be filed in the office of the Librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may be thus obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of their existence.

AND WHEREAS, It is deemed proper that such recommendation be brought to the notice and knowledge of the people of the United States; now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known the same, in the hope that the object of such resolution may meet the approval of the people of the United States, and that proper steps may be taken to carry the same into effect.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the 25th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1876, and of the Independence of the United States the 109th.

By the President:

U. S. GRANT.

HAMILTON FISH, *Secretary of State.*

Since this duty was assigned me, early in June, I have devoted nearly all my time to it. I soon found that I should not have time to prepare a history of the County, in detail, up to the present time; and I thought best to devote my inquiries to its earlier period.

I thought it more important to prepare a record of this time, because nearly all those who participated in its events, have passed away. Even now, I find it very difficult to get reliable information in regard to the first settlement of the county. Although I have used every means possible to get at the facts, correctly, I fear some errors may be found.

Among those to whom I am especially indebted for information and aid, are Judge F. P. Wright, Jno. S. Lingle of Sedalia, E. Cameron of Pleasant Hill, A. C. Widdicome of Boonville, Dr. Freed, Henry C. Carpenter, Samuel P. Wetzel, James J. Donald, Charles Walls, J. G. Phillips, Judge S. H. Davis, E. T. Condley, Mrs. Jno. B. Lemon, Benj. Harris, Geo. Blanton, Albert Kincaid, Wm. F. Hughes, E. W. Ramsey, C. G. Heath and M. K. McGrath, Secretary of State. I am greatly indebted to Mr. E. T. Rhea for his patience in hunting up old records in his office for me, and to Mr. P. D. Hastain for aid in getting information from these records in shape for use.

JAMES H. LAY.

WARSAW, Mo., July 4, 1876.

CONTENTS.

I.

DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION.

II.

INDIANS.

III.

OLD REMAINS.

IV.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

V.

GETTING HOMES.

VI.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

VII.

ORGANIZATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

VIII.

WARSAW.

IX.

EARLY COURTS.

X.

BANK OF NIANGUA.

XI.

SLICKER WAR.

XII.

NOTED CRIMINAL TRIALS.

XIII.

POMME DE TERRE BRIDGE—CALIFORNIA EXCITEMENT—
CHOLERA—IMPROVEMENT OF THE OSAGE—
KANSAS WAR.

XIV.

CHURCHES.

XV.

NEWSPAPERS.

XVI.

WAR OF 1861—CONCLUSION.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF COUNTY OFFICERS.

TABLE OF POPULATION.

I.

DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION.

The first knowledge which the whites had of the region of the Osage, was obtained by De Soto's expedition, nearly 300 years ago, seventy years before Virginia was settled. In the summer of 1541 this expedition reached its most northern limit, supposed to be on the Ozark Mountains, in the vicinity of Springfield. An exploring party, which was sent to examine the regions to the north, reported that they were almost a desert. The country nearer the Missouri was said, by the Indians, to be thinly inhabited; the bison abounded there so much that no maize could be cultivated, and the few Indians were hunters.

I can find no further mention of this region for about 150 years. In 1705, the French, of Louisiana, sent an exploring expedition up the Missouri as far as Kansas City. In the year of 1720, the French, under Renault, began their first mining and fur trading in Southeast Missouri; and it is probable that this immediate country was first explored by parties sent out from that vicinity, and by the traders at Kaskaskia, in Illinois. It is very probable that the Osage was visited by the French in search of minerals and furs 150 years ago, and that they continued their expeditions up to and after the time when the country came under the control of the English. After the settlement of Saint Louis, in 1764, the fur trade was an important branch of its business, and there can be little doubt that the Osage was frequented regularly by the agents of the fur traders. But I have been unable to obtain the slightest account of their trade on the river, or even the names of the persons engaged in it. The only record they have left, within my knowledge, is the names of some of the chief branches of the Osage. The Auglaise, the Gravois, the Pomme de Terre (Potato River), the Tebos, the original spelling of which was Thibaut, and the Marias de Cygnes, named from the swans on its lakes, evidently obtained their names from the French. Thibaut was probably the name of a Frenchman who was connected in some way with these streams, and gave his name to them.

The French doubtless continued to trap, hunt and trade with the Indians until the first pioneer Americans engaged in the same pursuits. Previous to 1820, how long I cannot tell, two Frenchmen, Jeroux and Trudais, had a trading post with the Indians in Vernon County. The only definite account I have of the French in this County, outside of Hogle and Pensinoe's trading post, is of three hunters who lived here within the memory of the old settlers. One, named Mishler, lived near the mouth of Hogle's Creek ; one, named Fouche, in the bottom, now in the Isaac Wickliff field, and one named Dinwiddee, who lived on the bank of the river, at the head of Dinwiddee Island, a little below the mouth of Grand River. This is the first and the last that seems to be known definitely of the French in Benton.

II.

INDIANS.

The first allusion to the Indians of this country is in the History of De Soto's Expedition, where they are described as a tribe of hunters, not raising corn like the Indians of the Eastern and Southern States. In 1804, Lewis and Clark speak of them as follows: "The Osage owes its name to a nation inhabiting its banks, at a considerable distance from the Missouri. Their present name, however, seems to have originated among the French traders; for among themselves and their neighbors they are called Wabashes. They number between 1,200 and 1,300 warriors, and consist of three tribes:—the Great Osages, of about 500 warriors, living in a village on the south bank of the river; the Little Osages, of nearly half that number, residing at a distance of about six miles from them; and the Arkansas band, a colony of Osages of 600 warriors, who left them some years ago, under command of a Chief called Big Foot, and settled on the Vermillion River, a branch of the Arkansas. In person, the Osages are among the largest and best formed Indians, and are said to possess fine military capacities; but residing as they do in villages, and having made considerable advances in Agriculture, they seem less addicted to war than their northern neighbors, to whom the use of the rifle gives a great superiority." At the time of the location of Harmony Mission, in 1821, near where Papinsville now stands, in Bates County, the Big Osages had quite a large village eight miles northeast of the present town of Nevada, governed by a noted Chief called White Hare; and there was also a village of Little Osages three miles north of the present site of Balltown. These were, in all probability, the villages described by Lewis and Clark. It is stated in Wetmore's Gazetteer, in 1836, that "One of the largest mounds in this country has been thrown up on the Osage, within the last thirty or forty years by the Osages, near the great Osage village, in honor of one of their deceased chiefs"; and the writer claims that this proves that the mounds of the

State were thrown up by the later Indians, and not by an older people. The recent examinations, however, of the State Geologist, show that all the large mounds in the western part of the State are natural, and not created by human agency. Smaller villages of the Osages were numerous on the upper Osage. Several considerable ones were located near the mouth of Pomme de Terre. One of about 300 wigwams stood in the prairie bottom now covered by the farms of Mr. N. Campbell, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Holland. Five large heaps of stone on the ridge, at the junction, and between Little and Big Pomme de Terre Creeks, mark their graves. They had several small fields in the vicinity. Another small village stood where Judge Alexander settled. He gave them \$60.00 for their claim and clearing of seven acres. A larger village stood at the mouth of Hogle's Creek, and at this village Hogle's store stood. The Big Pomme de Terre, up to about 1835, was the dividing line between the Indians and the whites; and Hogle was a Government agent to keep out the whites, and prevent them from selling liquor to the Indians. In the latter duty he is said to have had poor success. There was a small village in the Heath bend. The Shawnees had a village of 200 or 300 persons on what is now Mrs. Stewart's field, in the Shawnee Bend, opposite the mouth of Grand River. A few families also lived in the bottom between the junction of Little Tebo and Sterrett's Creek. Judge Lindsay bought out one of their clearings, and Milton Kincaid bought another, at the place where Mr. Albert Kincaid's house now stands. He gave them \$9.00.

The Indians were probably moved out of the State to their reservations in Kansas, over which there has been lately such important litigation, about the year 1835. Their title to the land was purchased, as near as I can ascertain, in 1808. The Government had a trading post at Fort Osage, now called Sibley, in the north-east corner of Jackson County, and dealt with the Indians in this region through her agents there. They continued to come into the country on hunting expeditions for several years after the County was organized; perhaps as late as 1840. There is little of romance or tragedy connected with their history in this county. They were peaceable in their intercourse with the whites. The only affair of a hostile nature in which they were engaged is the following, which is narrated to me by one of the participants:

Some time after the Indians moved out of the county, about twenty hunters, with their ponies, squaws and papooses, came in

on a hunting expedition and camped on Niangua. It was reported to the authorities at Warsaw that they were killing the hogs of the settlers. D. C. Ballou, who was Colonel of the militia, called out a company, of which Thomas J. Bishop was Captain, and J. G. Phillips First Lieutenant. They marched down to the Niangua through the rain, and surrounded the Indian camp while the hunters were all out hunting. After the guards were placed around the camp, an old squaw, wife of the Chief, Capt. Bob, mounted a pony, and attempted to leave the camp. Cabel Crews was on guard where she tried to go out. He ordered and motioned her back, whereupon she drew a butcher knife from her stocking and prepared to fight. Capt. Bishop cried out, "Knock her off, Crews," and Crews promptly did so, cutting her head till the blood flowed freely. The other squaws and children raised a terrible uproar when she fell. Crews was about to strike her again, when Lieutenant Phillips cried out, "You Crews! don't you hit her; you'll raise a bloody war right here." Crews obeyed the pacific order of his commander, and war was avoided. The hunters came in one by one, or in small parties, and the locks were taken off their guns; the guns of the militia being so wet that they would not fire. The husband of the old squaw was very indignant when he learned of the harsh treatment she had received, and tried to find out who struck her. No further violence ensued, however, and the Indians were brought up and quietly moved out of the County.

III.

OLD REMAINS.

A good deal has been said about the ancient remains of the Osage Valley, and some early writers claimed that such remains were very numerous, and indicated an older people than we have any account of. But a little acquaintance with the country has shown that very little work was ever done here by human agency before the settlement by the whites.

The most important old remains, on the Osage, are at Halley's Bluff, two miles above Belvoir, and in that vicinity. On the Bluff are the remains of three furnaces, and at the foot of the Bluff are twenty-three jug-shaped holes, excavated in the rock. Around the furnaces, and covering the approach to the excavations, are the remains of earth and stone fortifications.

In the neighborhood are other excavations in the earth, and a few miles down the river is another old furnace.

Some have supposed this work to have been done by De Soto, during his expedition in 1541-2; but the existence of pick marks in the soft sand-stone, seems to disprove that the work was done so long ago. It was, in all probability, done by the French, who are known to have traded with the large Indian villages in the immediate vicinity.

The lines of beautiful mounds running off north and south from this place, and the several branches of the Osage coming together here, in so lovely a country, made it a prominent location with the Indians, and drew to this point the chief trade of the French.

In this County are found the remains of several furnaces, in the bottom, at the lower end of Henry Breshears' field, four miles from Warsaw. They were doubtless constructed by the French for testing their minerals when prospecting, or possibly for smelting a considerably quantity of lead ore, which they may have found. The early miners in Southwest Missouri used furnaces similar to a lime kiln to smelt lead. Near Joseph Monroe's, on a

hill side, on the ridge between Grand River and Osage, is a spot where several square rods have been dug over to a slight depth. It is doubtless one of the many places, which, as our geologists decide, with every show of reason, were dug over by the Indians to get flint.

There are in the County some heaps of stone, on the bluffs, that are called Indian graves. One is on the bluff of Little Tebo, near Mr. George Blanton's. The largest that I have heard of are on the ridge near Mr. John Holland's house. There are five large mounds of loose stones, in which skeletons and trinkets have been found. There are also some graves on the bluff below the Sulphur Springs, on the Osage.

Soon after Benton County was organized, perhaps in 1838, several Frenchmen came up the river in search of buried silver. They stated that many years before, a company of Frenchmen were coming down the river in boats, with a large quantity of silver coin, or bullion; that the Indians pursued them along the banks till the French, becoming alarmed, abandoned their boats, buried their silver and guns, and took to the woods, near the mouth of Pomme de Terre. One of the company claimed to be a brother of one of the party who buried the silver, and to have received minute descriptions of the locality where the silver was buried, and of marks that had been made to point out the spot. The searchers found, at the lower end of the bottom, where Henry Breshear's farm now is, a rock, placed in a notch cut in a tree, and on digging at the spot toward which the rock pointed, they actually found a large lot of old guns. They also, it is said, found guns in the bottom at the head of Dean Island. But, after a long search for the silver, they went away without success. The old guns were thrown around a store at the Warsaw ferry for a long time afterwards. An old resident has spent much time this spring of 1876 searching for the silver.

Tradition does not tell where the silver came from, though the popular story is that it was mined and smelted at the old furnaces up the river. This is entirely improbable, for if valuable silver mines had ever been worked on the river, the knowledge of them would not have been lost. If there was any silver buried, and there really seems some reason to think there was, it was probably obtained by trade at the Indian towns in Vernon, or brought over the plains by adventurers from Santa Fe, who fell on the

head of the Osage on their way back to the Mississippi. The last suggestion is not entirely improbable, for as early as 1720, the Spaniards at Santa Fe, hearing of the settlements of the French on the Upper Mississippi, and wishing to push them back, entered into a league with the Osage Indians to exterminate the French and the Missouri Indians, who were steadfast friends of the French. In pursuance of the plan, the Spanish came across from Santa Fe with a large force, and with their families and stock, to form a settlement. They fell in with the Missouris, thinking them their allies (the Osages), and while off their guard were all slaughtered except one priest. Trading expeditions went from the Missouri River to Santa Fe as early as 1805 and 1812, and it is possible that a party of these traders may have returned down the Osage with silver.

At an early day a large quantity of the bones of the mammoth, or mastodon, were found at two places in this County—one on the farm now owned by the Chas. Wickliff heirs, on the Osage; the other near the farm of Alexander Breshears, on the Big Pomme de Terre. At the Wickliff farm Messrs. Case and Redmond took out a large part, perhaps nearly the whole, of a large skeleton, shipped it to Cincinnati, I think, and obtained a large sum of money for it. One of the tusks is said to have been nine feet long. Others have obtained small quantities of bones at the same place. Drs. Sill & Crawford, a few years ago, took out some very interesting specimens, which they still have at their store.

On the Pomme de Terre a Scotchman, named Cott, took out with little labor, a large, complete, and well preserved skeleton; took it east, and is said to have sold it for \$20,000. The fame of his success caused others to dig for the bones, and two brothers, named Bradley, from Boone County, went to work at the Breshears deposits, kept from fifteen to twenty hands at work for several months, and took out a large quantity of bones. But the spring at the place so filled the diggings with water that they had to employ a pump to keep the water out, and worked at great expense; and the bones they secured were so badly decomposed that on coming to the light and air they generally fell to pieces, and the Bradleys were broken by the venture.

IV.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first location in the County by whites, of which I have any distinct account, was made by a German named John F. Hogle, and a Frenchman named Pensinoe. They established a trading post at an Indian village at the mouth of Hogle's Creek, in what is now the Stephens field, on the Osage. Other Indian villages were near them. In what year they came I am unable to learn, but they were probably there several years before any other settlers came. Hogle was an agent of the Government with the Indians, and from him Hogle's Creek took its name. In 1832 Thomas J. Bishop, a young man, came out and was employed by Hogle as clerk, and soon succeeded him in business. The post was known to the early settlers as Bishop's store. This store probably continued in operation till 1837 or 1838, till the Indians left, and business was done at Warsaw.

The first trace of English speaking people of which I have been able to obtain any information, is the old Boonville and Springfield road. This road is spoken of in the earliest records of the County as the "Old Road," and was known among the first settlers as the "old road," or the "old military road." From these names my inference is that the road was originally cut out by the United States government for military purposes. It extended from Palmyra, on the Mississippi river, through Boonville, Springfield and Fayetteville, Arkansas, to Fort Smith, and was the chief route of travel from the upper Mississippi to Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. It was regularly located and cut out to the legal width by act of March 7, 1835. The Old Harmony Mission road, leaving the Boonville and Springfield road near Cole Camp, and running through the northern part of the County, was probably traveled before Benton County was settled, the Mission having been established in 1821 by missionaries from New York, who went up the Osage in keel boats.

Ezekiel Williams is commonly understood, and I believe correctly, to have been the first Anglo-Saxon settler in Benton

County. According to the best information I can get, he came in the fall of 1830, or early in 1831, and settled first on the Fordney place, and soon afterwards, on the well-known old Williams farm, in the bottom, about three miles southwest of Cole Camp, on the old road. He was one of the followers of Lewis and Clark in their expedition across the Rocky Mountains in 1804. Oliver L. G. Brown, about the same time, settled on Cole Camp Creek, near the crossing of the old road. About the time Mr. Williams came, or a little later, two young men named Ross built a cabin on Ross Creek, near its mouth, and remained there a short time, and from them the creek takes its name. In February, 1831, Mannen Duren built a cabin in Cole Camp bottom, opposite the mouth of Duren's Creek, which took its name from him. He came from Pettis county during the winter season, with his stock, which wintered chiefly on the grass in the bottoms. He settled at a very early day on the old road, where Marcellus Jeans now lives, William Kelley having first settled the place.

In the fall of 1831 Lewis Bledsoe located where the old road crossed the Osage, about one mile and a half above Warsaw, and established a ferry. He built his cabin on the river bank, on a spot now in Dr. Crawford's field. A man named Yearger had, soon after, a small store at the same place. In the fall of 1831, Stephen A. Howser settled on the point close to Gillett's mill, in Warsaw. I have reason to suppose, but no positive information, that he bought a small clearing of the Kickapoo Indians, who, like himself, had been attracted to the spot by the rich soil, and the fine spring in front of Charles Wall's house. His house remained for six years the only one on the present site of Warsaw. County Court was occasionally held at his house before the Court House was built. He and his sons have been quite noted in the history of the County. He was County Collector in 1835 and 1836, was one of the first Justices of the Peace, and in 1840 was appointed County Judge for a short time, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Lindsay. He and his sons were warm supporters of the Jones party in the "Slicker War," and his son Thomas, in an affray at Warsaw, stabbed Habangh, a Turkman, and was himself shot by Mackey, another Turkman. His son, Stephen H. Howser, was the famous Houge Howser, who attained a wide spread reputation as a lawless man; George Howser, another son, was killed at his home, near Warsaw, early in the war of 1861, and his brother, Rice Howser, was killed in

the battle at Cole Camp. He was at the time Postmaster at Warsaw.

Judge William White settled, in 1831, or possibly in 1832, on the Jessie Drake place. Philip Hall settled at the same time on the James R. Coe place, and shortly afterwards on the old Philip Hall place, west of Jesse Drake's. He bought a clearing from the Indians, and had one of the first mills in the County.

In the spring of 1832, as near as I can learn, Geo. H. Hughes, father of William F. Hughes, Levi Odineal, Thomas Moon, and one Alsup came from Cooper County, expecting to make money by raising stock on the rye grass in the bottoms. A severe winter killed the grass, and much of their stock perished. They first settled on the old Tyree place. In the fall of 1832, Sympkins Harryman and Daniel Nave settled in the same neighborhood. He at first settled, for a short time, on the W. H. Williams, or Doss place, near Fairfield. Wm. Rippetoe settled about the same time on the E. B. Cunningham place. He was the first white man on Pomme de Terre.

Among the settlers in 1832 was Judge George Alexander, who settled and remained for about three years on the place now owned by Mrs. Thurman, on the waters of Turkey Creek. He was engaged in barter with the Indians on the west of Pomme de Terre, which was then the line between the whites and Indians. About 1835, when the country west of Pomme de Terre was opened to the whites, he bought an Indian village and clearing at the farm now owned by his son, John H. Alexander, paying the Indians \$60.00. He was elected County Judge at the first election, in 1836, and continued in the position till 1844. He was a supporter of the Joneses, to whom he was related by marriage. He continued a prominent citizen of the county until his death, in 1875. His sons were well known citizens. Mat. was Lieutenant in Captain Holloway's company in the Mexican war. Tom was captured, in the war of 1861, and taken out at Osceola and shot. Frank was badly wounded early in the war by the militia. He lingered, helpless and in great suffering, till 1868. John still lives on his father's old farm, a respected citizen.

Capt. John Holloway also settled in the county in April, 1832. He left Kentucky when a boy, and served in Northern Illinois and Wisconsin in the Black Hawk war. After quitting the army he spent a year in Illinois, and then hitched up his team and started

west. He crossed the Osage at Bledsoe's Ferry, moved up the river, around the Shawnee Bend, till he reached the bluffs above the old John B. Wright place, from which he had a magnificent view of the beautiful prairie bottom, now known as Heath's Bend. His fancy was so captivated that he at once made up his mind that there should be his future home, and in spite of the prudent advice of his wife to go over and examine the place first, he at once went to work and made a raft to transfer his effects over the river. He settled on the farm now occupied by his son-in-law, C. G. Heath. He became one of the most important men in our early history. He was the first Treasurer of the County. His military experience, his gallantry, and his popularity, made him the military leader, the Miles Standish of the early settlers. He was the chief man on the field of militia musters. He commanded the militia in the Slicker war. At one time, when about one hundred armed Turk men were in Warsaw, some of them accused him of mistreating a woman or child on one of his expeditions in the south part of the County. He instantly boiled over with rage, and mounting a work bench in their midst, heaped on them the most bitter abuse and defiance. The spectators confidently expected a bloody fight, but the Turks contented themselves with promising to settle with him afterwards. When the Mexican war broke out, he raised a company, in the summer of 1846, and marched across the plains under command of Col. Sterling Price, to New Mexico. He was among the first to catch the California gold fever, and went across to that territory with one of the earliest trains. He returned to Missouri, and started back to California with a drove of cattle in 1853. On the route he was drowned in crossing Green River, near Salt Lake.

In 1832, the first settlements were made on Little Tebo. Milton Kincaid, John Graham, Sr., and George Blanton, with their families, came up from the Auglaise, where they had stopped for a year or two. Kincaid bought out an Indian clearing and wigwams, on the farm now owned by his son, Albert Kincaid. He gave the Indian \$9.00. Graham settled on the farm near Spring Grove Church, now owned by Mr. Slinker, and George Blanton on the place now owned by Mr. James W. Wright, higher up the creek. About the same time John H. Howard and Lewis Johnson settled on the Osage below Warsaw, near where Mr. P. W. Duckworth now lives.

The above names comprise all the settlers prior to 1833, concerning whom I have been able to get any certain information. They might be called the pioneers of Benton County. From this time the immigration seems to have been steady and considerable. About 1833 a great tide of emigration westward began to flow all along the western border. The veto by General Jackson of the bill to re-charter the United States Bank, in 1832, led to the establishment of innumerable State banks all over the country. These were generally founded on insufficient capital, and were anxious to get their bills as far away from home as possible, so they would not be sent in for redemption. They offered every possible encouragement to borrowers, and the ease with which money could be obtained to pay for land at the Western offices, caused vast sums to be invested in this way. The wildest excitement in land speculation ever known in the history of the country sprang up, and raged till President Jackson issued his famous specie circular in 1836, requiring lands to be paid for in coin. Then the bills of the "wild cat" banks were sent in for redemption, the banks went down, and the crash of 1837 came, precipitating a financial ruin and depression from which the country did not recover for a number of years.

It seems to have been during this fever of land speculation that the first great tide of immigration settled in Missouri. The particulars of the settlement of Benton County during this time, from 1833 to 1836, when the first census was taken, I have been unable to obtain, and if I had them, their narration would be too lengthy for this sketch. I can only make some general allusions to the settlement of localities not before mentioned. Before any white settlers came on to this creek, three free negroes settled on it near Fairfield; one, called Edmond, in the bottom, now in Albert Crabtree's field, and two others, called Lige and Manuel, at the "Free Nigger Spring," above Fairfield. On the Pomme de Terre, among the first settlers were Albert Crabtree's father, Peter and Nathan Huff, who settled on the E. K. Bailey place; Alex Breshears and Sampson Norton, on Breshears' Prairie; above them the Joneses and Brookshires, famous in the Slicker war. In the same vicinity were Samuel Weaver and Samuel Daniels. On the prairie hollow were Isaac Saulsbury and Edward P. Bell. Beyond Pomme de Terre, in what is now the northwest corner of Hickory County, were Judge Joseph C. Montgomery, on the

Samuel Walker place, Samuel Judy at Quiney, and John Graham near the same place. On Hogle's Creek, after the post at Hogle's store, among the first settlers was James M. Wisdom, father of Andrew J. and Hardin P. Wisdom, and other children, still residents of the County. So thinly settled was the County at that time, that Mr. Wisdom had to go to Niangua, from whence he had moved, to get hands to help raise his house. On Turkey Creek, among the first were Samuel Weaver, on the Wainwright place; Duval Beck, on the Leo Phegly farm; Walter McFarland and W. H. Barnett, on the places they now own; B. H. Williams, Joseph Hooper, David Kidwell, Jacob Dawson, on the W. W. Galbrieth place, John Scaggs, on the Wm. P. Kays place, and Mr. Hudson, on the Walthal place. Mr. Wm. Kays, father of Wm. P. Kays, had one of the first mills in the County, on the Osage, a short distance above the mouth of Turkey Creek. On Deer Creek, the first, and a very early settler, was Elmore, who lived about two and a half miles above the mouth of the creek. Other early settlers on this creek were Elijah Doty, on the Wm. Gunn place, Jonas Dawson and George Richardson. On the Osage, below Warsaw, among the early settlers were John M. Williams and Wm. Denton, on the bottom below Duroe, on the land known as the Denton land. About the Duckworth place was Isaac Nicholson, besides Howard and Johnson before mentioned. Higher up was William Jeans, on the Ramsey place, and the Donaghes in the same neighborhood. Above Warsaw were the Stewarts and John B. and Montgomery Wright, in the Shawnee Bend; James and John Roberts on the Balliett place; Isaac Wickliff on his old farm; James Browder, just above; John and William Dean, at the Dean Island; Emanuel Case, on the Henry Cunningham place. On Grand River, the first settlement was made at the Bettie Foster Ford, by one of the Fosters; others of the Fosters, and Anglins were among the first on Grand River. Adamson Cornwall, on the Joshua Graham place, and Cabel Crews, on the old Claycomb farm, were among the first on Big Tebo. On Little Tebo, among the first after those already named, were Elias Hughes, on the place now owned by Wm. O. Hughes; Judge John W. Lindsay, in the bottom between the junction of Sterrett's Creek and Little Tebo; one of the Linns in the same vicinity; Henry Davis, on the Gregory place; Andy Bryant, on the place owned by William H. Davidson; Judge Wm. White, on the Radford place; Davis Redd,

on the Osborn place; and Adam Neas where his son Samuel Neas now lives. On Cole Camp, besides those already named, among the early settlers were John Tyree, Jacob Carpenter, George Cathey, Travis Cox, Wesley Holland, father of Dr. W. S. Holland, Albert Nichols, John W. Eastwood, Samuel Fowler, and Champion Helvey, who settled V. G. Kemper's place. On Indian Creek, where Claus Stilges now lives, John Shipton, at a very early day, had a mill, quite noted in its time. The plat of a town at that place may still be found in the Clerk's Office; but the town, like many other hopeful schemes, came to nothing.

The first house in Cole Camp town was built by Hosea Powers. Previous to 1839, in what year I have not determined, he was moving west, without any plan as to where he should locate. Walking ahead of his teams, he came to the spot where Cole Camp now stands, and being pleased with the location, he at once determined to settle on it. He stopped his wagons, and, being a surveyor, marked out his claim. He had been educated as a lawyer. In 1844 he was elected to the State Senate, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Benj. P. Majors, defeating Benj. F. Robinson, of Versailles.

In 1846, V. G. Kemper, under the advice and aid of James Atkisson, set up a small store near Powers' house. Soon after Septimus Martin opened another store. He was followed by the Blakey Brothers in a short time. A post-office had been located at an early day at Ezekiel Williams', and called Cole Camp, from the creek near by. When the stores were opened at Powers', the post-office was moved there, its original name being continued, and giving name to the town. I have heard different reports as to how the creek came by its name. Some say that some travelers, or hunters, camped on the old road at the crossing of the creek, on a very cold night, and from this circumstance the creek took its name. But from the best information I have, and the probability of the case, I am of the opinion that the creek gets its name from the circumstance of the Coles, of Cooper County, having camped for some time on the creek for hunting, exploring, or wintering their stock on the bottom grass. A numerous family of the Coles were among the earliest settlers of Cooper County. From Capt. Stephen Cole, one of this family, Cole County, and Cole Township in Benton County, were named.

On Lake Creek, the first settlers were James Q. Carrico, Joseph Lebow, Allen Morgan and C. C. James. They were probably as

early settlers as there were in the County. Other early settlers on that creek were John and Gesche Boschen, Henry Holtzen, John Eifert, John Goetz, N. D. Jack and Jacob Timpkin.

On Haw Creek the first settlements were made near Boschen's store, by Richard Williams, Solomon Crabtree, Joseph Thouvenel, James Allard, Samuel McCulloh, John Brown and James D. Murry. The land owned by these men soon fell in the hands of James Godwin and the Harrisons, who long kept noted houses of entertainment on the road. They are now chiefly owned by Herman Boschen and John H. Mahnkin, Thess. Meyers' widow and F. Dieckman.

The first settlements on Barker's Creek were made by Dick Barker and Wm. Collins, near its mouth in Henry County, the creek taking its name from the former. They probably came about 1832 or 1833. In 1833 or 1834, Major Garth settled the old Handy farm, and Samuel Woodson adjoining it on the Harrison Ellis farm.

On the head of Brush Creek, Jeremiah Bess, on the old James Q. Priestly place; a little higher up the creek, Carter, his brother-in-law, and one or two others, whose names I have been unable to obtain, were the first settlers. In 1835 or 1836, a colony from Bourbon County, Ky., came into this neighborhood and bought out most of the first settlers, paying what now seems extravagant prices for claims. Some paid as high as \$600, and even \$1,200. In this colony were Roland McDaniel and his sons, Enos, George, Benjamin and William. The father bought of Samuel Woodson, and settled on the Harrison Ellis place, west of Fort Lyon. Enos settled at the old orchard, near Oliver Little's, George at the old clearing in the woods west of Joshua Lloyd's, Ben on the Keller place, and William where he now lives. In the same colony were Henry Y. Elbert and his sons, Roland, Henry and John. Henry Y., who was County Judge in 1842, bought of Major Garth the Handy place, and his sons as they grew up settled in the same neighborhood. In connection with this colony came also Thomas C. Warren, who settled on the Brame farm, Jno. Cleaveland, who settled on the League place, Wm. Peak, who settled the Jno. F. Garland farm, buying it from Mr. Pettus, Roland Cleaveland, who settled on Brush Creek, west of Pony Miller's, and Robert Leach, who settled on the branch below Perry Wetzel's present farm. Most of these persons came together, and the track made

across the prairie by their train is said to have remained visible for five years. It is noticeable that nearly all of this colony, having the whole of this beautiful neighborhood to choose from, selected at first homes on the broken, poor soils, close to the creeks. Among the first settlers on Brush Creek were also Chastain Cock, on the Wm. B. (Pony) Miller' place, and Zach. Fewel on the place where his widow now lives.

Among the first on Clear Creek were Jacob Chastain, Richard Glover, Levi M. Rizley, William Simpson, Samuel Rippin, Washington Dorrell, who was on the Harden Osborn place, and Samuel B. May, on the Amon English place.

Nearly all the settlers so far mentioned, and, in fact, nearly all those who came prior to 1840, located along the creeks in the timber. The immigrants were generally from Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, and knew nothing of prairie farming. They were generally poor, and the timber offered more immediate facilities for building and living than the prairie. Perhaps, too, the animal life of the woods, the murmuring of the streams, and the rustling of the forests, were company for the lonely pioneers. The cabins were at first generally built in the bottoms near springs, and little clearings opened as soon as possible to raise bread. Meat was obtained chiefly by the chase. The overflows, especially those of 1837, 1844 and 1845, flooded and washed away many of the cabins, and caused the houses to be moved to higher ground. There is hardly an old farm where the remains of an old chimney may not be found, the house having been washed away, or removed to higher ground from fear of the flood. I think many farms were entirely abandoned on account of the overflows. About 1840 the settlers began to locate in the prairies, always, however, having their farms near the timber. The opinion generally prevailed that the wide prairies were not productive; land that would not produce trees would not produce crops. Tom Benton had declared that sixty miles west of St. Louis the country was a desert. The government surveyors had pronounced the rich prairies of the western Counties unfit for cultivation. So it was only by degrees that the farmers ventured out on the prairies.

Among the first settlers on the prairies were George W. Rives, Stephen H. Donglass, R. S. Cates, Hiram P. Casey and Stephen H. Davis, on North Prairie; Samuel Orr, James and Wiley Vinson, near Lincoln; James H. Lay, C. L. Perry, Lindsay Bowman and

Johnson Shobe on Little Tebo; Alexander Davidson, Markham Fistoe and Samuel Parks on Clear Creek. I believe that no farms were opened any distance from the timber till 1855 or 1856, when the excitement in land speculation began to spring up, and not until about 1868-9 did the advancing settlements from the waters of the Osage meet those from Flatt Creek, on the high prairie dividing the waters of the Missouri and the Osage.

The manners of living and habits of the early settlers were so much like those of all the western pioneers, and so well known, as to require no more than a passing notice. The pioneers were generally poor men, who came west to get cheap land and better their fortunes. As illustrating their condition, and way of living, I quote the following from a letter written me by the son of one of the old settlers, whose father died some years ago, leaving a good estate:

"We traveled in truck wagons, with wheels made from logs, and drawn by oxen. Our plows were bull tongues, fastened to forks cut from young trees, and a kind of diamond with wooden mold board. Our grain was tramped out with horses on the ground and winnowed. Our houses were log cabins, daubed with mud, with stick and mud chimneys, and clap-board doors. No schools, no churches, no courts, no voting. Both women and men wore home-made clothing, with not much cotton in it. The nearest mill was 27 miles, to which we went on horseback. Game was plenty. My father has killed three deer before sunrise. There were deer, elks, bears, panthers, wildcats, catamounts, wolves, turkeys and Indians. I have seen seven elks together within gun shot of the door. I have seen wolves run the chickens into the yard in the day time, and snap at them as they ran through the fence. Green head flies would kill a horse in an hour on the prairies. When I was seven or eight years old, I had no breeches or shoes, and the snow was on the ground sometimes when I went to my traps. I would get three clap-boards, warm them well before the fire, run one-third the way, drop one and stand on it until my feet got warm, then run another third of the distance and warm my feet on another board, and use the last at the traps. I would make the same stops going back, picking up my boards. My father borrowed a wagon to move here from Cooper County. It had no bed, and he put on a large wheat gum, and put mother and the children in it. My father's circumstances were about as good as anybody's at that time."

The families of John Holloway, Milton Kineaid, and I presume many others, gathered the tall nettles in the rich bottoms, and rotted and worked them like flax, and made clothes of the lint. The wardrobe of the little fellows was considered complete, in the summer, when they got a long shirt of this nettle cloth. After the shoes which the settlers brought with them were worn out, moccasins were used to a considerable extent. What few articles they bought at Boonville or Hogle's trading post, were paid for in peltry and game. These particulars, of course, apply only to the first settlers.

Bledsoe's Ferry, from the first settlement of the County, became a prominent point. All the travel from the Upper Mississippi and Missouri Rivers passed this point, and droves of stock were driven along this route at an early day. This travel caused Mark Fristoe to start a rival ferry about a mile and a half below Bledsoe's, where Powers' Ferry now runs, at Warsaw. He opened a road diverging from the old road, and running across the ridge, just above Warsaw, which was the nearest road to the site of Warsaw until 1838.

As soon as the settlement became considerable, the organization of a new County, with the County Seat near these ferries, was contemplated, and small business houses were started under Bledsoe's auspices at Mr. Dice's, and under Fristoe's at his house, about a mile north of Warsaw. These villages became the rendezvous for all the surrounding country until Warsaw was located, and were remarkable more for hard drinking and fighting than for business.

While the early settlers were generally steady, hard-working men, my conversations with old settlers lead me to believe that there was also a large sprinkling of rough characters, who had fled from difficulties in the East, as our friends who get into trouble now, fly to Texas. At any rate the state of society was very rough for a number of years after the country was settled. As stated elsewhere, the groceries exceeded in number all other business houses, and a crowd seldom met at one of them without getting into a row. It was a common thing for parties who had a misunderstanding, to meet at a public place and fight it out with their fists, in the presence of their friends, who could seldom deny themselves the luxury of participating. One of the first experiences of Mr. E. W. Ramsey, early in 1836, was to sit on a

box at Ringo and Jopling's store, at Fristoe's town, and witness a general row growing out of a fight that had been arranged between Newson and Johnson. When Mr. James J. Donald first came from Boonville, in 1839, to make a bid for building the Court House, he was so discouraged by the rough manners and violent demonstrations in Warsaw, that he mounted his horse and went back post haste. It would be impossible even to allude to all the famous fights that took place in Warsaw on court and election days, in those early times. But the advantages of the town, as a business point, caused it to grow, notwithstanding the turbulent state of society. It is notable that the heaviest business men of Warsaw came here in the midst of the "Slicker war."

In the fall of 1834 the population became so considerable as to require a new county. I can only approximate the number of people at that time. The first census, taken in 1836, showed 1,572 people. This was nearly two years after the County was organized, and the County was about half as large again as it is now, Deducting the people of the territory since detached, and the immigration of 1835 and 1836, I think we might estimate the population in the present limits of Benton County, when it was organized, Jan. 3, 1835, at between 400 and 600 people, including slaves. Mr. John Graham, Sr., took the census of 1836, and was paid \$32.00 for his services.

V.

GETTING HOMES.

At the time the State was admitted into the Union, in 1820, the Government surveys extended into only one township in this County, viz: Tp. 43, R. 20, in the northeast corner of the County. The surveys were pushed out from the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers as the settlement of the country required.

I have not been able to ascertain when the township and range lines were run. Tp. 43, R. 20, was sectionized in 1822, and Tps. 40, 41 and 42, R. 20, in 1823. The lands in these townships were then in the Franklin—Howard, County Districts, the office being removed to Fayette in 1822. They were probably in market soon after they were sectionized, but the first entry was not made till February 26, 1836. It was made by Richard Williams of a part of the land now owned by John H. Mahnkin, near Boschen's store. S. L. Bowles entered a tract near Buffalo Mills, March 24, 1836. On the 27th of March, 1836, Joseph Thouvenel entered a part of the land belonging to the Boschen store tract. The fourth entry was made in April, 1836, by James Q. Carrico, of land close to Judge Peter E. Holtzen's store. In the summer of 1836, John M. Williams, Jno. H. Howard and Isaac Nicholson entered land on the Osage, in Tp. 40, R. 20. These were the only lands in the market up to 1838. Range 20 seems to have been the western limit, and Township 40 the southern limit of the surveys for several years. In the latter part of 1837, a party under George Lewis, Deputy U. S. Surveyor, began sectionizing the lands west of Range 20, and north of Township 39. The survey was completed in June, 1838. Of the party, Howell Lewis, now of Lewis Station, in Henry County, was forward chainman, John S. Lingle, rear chainman, Ira del Davis, brother of Joseph Davis, formerly of Clinton, was marker, Mr. Bush was flagman, and another Mr. Bush was cook and camp keeper. Soon after this survey was completed, to wit: on the 19th of Nov., 1838, Tp. 43, Rs. 21, 22 and 23 were offered for sale,

and a few entries were made in the extreme northwest part of the county; and on Oct. 21, 1839, Tps. 42 and 41, Ranges 21, 22 and 23, came into market. All these lands were in the Fayette District. The remainder, to wit: Tp. 40, Rs. 21, 22 and 23, must have been offered for sale at the Springfield office, in July, 1839, for I find the first entries made in that month. I presume, however, that entries made in July, August, September and October 1839, were pre-emptions proved up. I think the first public sales were made at Springfield about Nov. 15, 1839. During this month a large number of farms along the Osage were entered. The lands south of Tp. 40 seem never to have come into market till 1846, and possibly were not sectionized till about that time. I find that such old settlers as James M. Wisdom, George Alexander, N. Campbell, John H. Howard, and others on Pomme de Terre, did not enter their farms till 1846.

The lands north of Tp. 40 were in the Fayette District up to 1843. The Springfield office was established 26th of June, 1834, and the lands south of Tp. 41 were in that district till 1843. In 1843 the Clinton office was established, and all land in Benton, west of Range 20, became subject to entry at that place. From the fact that none of the lands in Tps. 38 and 39 were entered till 1846, three years after the Clinton office was established, I infer that they were not sectionized till about that time.

The Clinton office was removed to Warsaw in 1854. It was burned here in 1861, and the Warsaw district was consolidated with the Boonville district. While the office was at Warsaw, Mark L. Means was register, and N. B. Holden and A. C. Marvin receivers. But few entries were made prior to 1839. Each settler was allowed a pre-emption claim of 160 acres by law. But the County being unsurveyed before 1838, the limits of claims were indefinite, and it was a frequent thing for settlers to lay claim to large bodies of land, by staking them off and building pens of poles on them. Their claims were generally respected, and considerable money was made by Dr. James A. Clark and others, by selling them before they were entered. The conflict of claims seems to have been, however, a fruitful source of difficulty among neighbors.

When the lands were first offered for sale, considerable tracts were entered on speculation. Wm. Hickman, Wm. Hurley, David Kunkle, Isaac Aylesworth, James M. Blakey, Zach Fewel, and

Jno. A. Talbot, among others, entered large tracts. Some of these lands have not yet passed into the hands of actual settlers, and Mr. Harley and the heirs of Mr. Hickman still own some of their original entries. The date of 1839-40 marks the period of the first fever of land speculation. The next was in 1856-7-8, when the excitement became so high that almost all the vacant land was taken up. Many thousand acres were entered by non-residents, who never saw their lands. Thousands of acres of rocky hills, that will always remain worthless, unless valuable ores are discovered on them, were entered by Eastern men, through local agents. They are generally held yet by the patentees, or used for trading among Eastern men, who never saw them.

At this time was also entered, chiefly on speculation, the greater part of the large prairies at a distance from the timber. Most of these entries proved good investments.

The period of 1867-8-9 might be marked as a third era of land excitement. When order became thoroughly restored, after the war, a very large immigration came in from the Northern States, and created an active demand for land, during the years named. Many farms were sold at good prices, and a great deal of the prairie held by speculators passed into the hands of settlers, at profitable figures. The cessation of immigration, and the collapse of prices, since 1869, are too recent and painfully familiar, to need recording.

VI.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

This County belonged to France up to 1763, when it was transferred to Spain. It was restored to France in 1801, and sold to the United States in 1803. On the 23d of January, 1816, while Missouri was still a territory, Howard County was organized, and all of Benton County north of the Osage River was included in it. December 17th, 1818, Cooper County was organized, taking all of Benton that had been in Howard. November 25th, 1820, Saline County was organized, taking all of Benton north of the Osage River, except a strip six miles wide on the east side, which was left in Cooper. This strip was placed in Morgan January 5th, 1833, and in Pettis January 26th, 1833.

January 26th, 1833, Pettis County was organized, taking all of Benton north of the river.

Benton County, south of the river, I think was attached to Washington County till January 10th, 1831, when, I think, it was attached to Crawford County, till January 2d, 1833, when it became a part of Greene, I think, though the only evidence of this I can find is, that the citizens of Benton, by the act organizing Benton, were required to pay taxes then due to the Counties of Pettis and Greene.

Benton was organized January 3d, 1835. Its original boundaries took in all the present Benton, twenty-four square miles on the northwest corner, now in Pettis, and all of Hickory, north of Township 36, which included the territory now in Montgomery, Center and Stark Townships, in Hickory County, and the site of Quincy, then called Judy's Gap, Hermitage, Black Oak and Garden City.

February 17th, 1835, all of what is now Camden, south of the river and west of Big Niangua, was attached to Benton for civil and military purposes, and called Niangua Township. This was cut off from Benton January 29th, 1841, when Kinderhook County, now called Camden, was organized.

February 14th, 1845, Hickory County was organized, getting about three-fourths of its territory from Benton. Its first courts were held at the house of Joel B. Holbert, who was, at the time Hickory County was organized, Judge of the Benton County Court.

February 26th, 1845, twenty-four square miles were cut off to Pettis in the northwest corner of the County, between Ionia City and Windsor. Since this time the boundaries of the County have not been changed.

The almost continued effort, for the last twenty years, of our Windsor friends to cut off the northwest part of the County into a new County, is still fresh in the memory of all.

VII.

ORGANIZATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

WILLIAMS.

At the first term of the County Court, in February, 1835, the County was divided into four Townships.

Williams township was laid off with about its present boundaries, and named after Ezekiel Williams, an old resident therein. Levi Odineal was the first Justice of the Peace, and Thomas Moon the first constable. The first election was held at the house of Ezekiel Williams; and Ezekiel Williams, Sympkins Harryman and Thomas Moon were the first Judges of Election. Several succeeding elections were held at Williams' house. Afterwards they were held at Albert Nichols' house, and finally at Cole Camp, after that town was settled. Jacob Carpenter was the first Road Overseer.

COLE.

All the County south of Williams, and east of the range line, between Ranges 21 and 22, was organized into one Township, and called Cole, after Capt. Stephen Cole, one of the first settlers of Cooper County. This Township then comprised all of what is now Cole, all of Union, the east side of Fristoe, and the north-east corner of Hickory County.

John H. Howard and Jesse F. Royston were the first Justices of the Peace, and Logan Kays the first Constable. The first election was held at John H. Howard's house. The elections were afterwards held at the same place when Mr. Terry lived there, and later at the houses of Wm. Kays and Henry A. Dawson. Wm. Kays, Joseph Walton, and Jesse F. Royston were the first Judges of Election. Billington Johnson was the first Road Overseer.

LINDSAY

Comprised all the County west of Cole and Williams, north of the Osage and Grand Rivers, and ran to the north line of the

County, including all of what is now White. It was named for Judge John W. Lindsay, then on the County Court bench.

Adamson Cornwall, Stephen A. Howser and Zachariah Fewell were the first Justices of the Peace, and Hugh C. Donaghe first Constable. The first election was held at the house of John Isbell, near the spring on the south side of John Failer's Farm. John Graham, Mannen Duren and Zachariah Fewell were judges. The elections were afterwards held at Ringo & Jopling's store, and at the house of Markham Fristoe, a mile north of Warsaw. Andy Bryant and Robert Pogue were the first Road Overseers.

MONTGOMERY,

Named for Judge Joseph C. Montgomery, who was then on the County Court bench, comprised all of what is Tom and Alexander Townships, the west side of Fristoe, and the north-west corner of Hickory County, running out beyond Quincy. The part in Hickory was cut off from Benton County Feb. 14, 1845.

John Rippetoe was the first Justice, and James Morton, afterwards noted for being kidnapped by the Turks, was the first constable. The elections were held at the house of George Alexander until Alexander Township was cut off, when they were held at the houses of Judge Montgomery, Turk and Cruce. George Alexander, Thomas F. Wright and Samuel Judy were the first Judges of Election. John Roberts and Nathan Breshears were the first Road Overseers.

NIANGUA.

That part of what is now Camden County, which is south of the Osage, and west of Big Niangua, attached to Benton County for civil and military purposes, was organized by the County Court in May, 1835, into a Township called Niangua. It was cut off from Benton County Jan. 29, 1841.

The first election was held at the house of William Broadwater, and afterwards there and at the house of Pollard Wisdom. Henry Bollinger, Pollard Wisdom and Washington Young were the first Judges of Election, and James Jones and John Stark the first Road Overseers.

ALEXANDER

Was organized Feb. 13, 1838, and called after Judge George

Alexander, then on the County Court bench. It comprised, at first, all of what is now Tom, Alexander and the west side of Fristoe. It was organized from Montgomery Township, and left in that Township only what is now the north-west corner of Hickory County. The first election was held at the house of Mrs. Crabtree, and afterwards they were held at the houses of George Alexander and Nicholas Campbell.

WHITE

Was organized November 12, 1838, and called after Judge William White, then one of the County Judges, and one of the first settlers of the County. It comprised about its present boundaries.

The first, and several succeeding elections, were held at the house of George McDaniel, at the old, abandoned place, a short distance west of Joshua Lloyd's. Afterwards they were held at the houses of Markham Fristoe, Benj. McDaniel and Joseph G. Parsons. Henry Y. Elbert, Enos McDaniel and James Graham were the first Judges.

UNION

Was organized out of the south end of Cole, June 2, 1840. It originally included the north-east corner of Hickory County, the south part of the present Union, and the south-east corner of the present Fristoe. Cole still ran south of the river to Township 39.

The first election was held at the house of Richard Cates, on North Prairie, John McEwin, George W. Rives and Samuel Weaver being Judges. The elections were afterwards held at the houses of James E. Foster, A. F. Doak and Thomas Miles, until Hickory Township and County were cut off.

TOM

Was organized April 2, 1842, from the north end of Alexander, and probably called after Tom Bishop, then Clerk.

The first election was held at the house of John Holloway, where C. G. Heath now lives, and the elections have been held there ever since. Isaac Lusk, James Browder and John B. Wright were the first Judges.

HICKORY.

Was organized Sept. 18, 1844, in what is now the north-east corner of Hickory County, and was cut off with Hickory County

Feb. 14, 1845. The only election ever held in this Township was held in Nov. 1844, at the house of Jesse Driskell ; Jesse Driskell, A. H. Foster and Thomas Miles being Judges.

FRISTOE.

Was organized June 18, 1845, and called in honor of Judge Markham Fristoe, then on the County Court bench.

The first election was held at the house of Joseph Hooper, where, I believe, they have always been held since. Joel Shepherd, James Walthall and Edward P. Bell were the first Judges.

I cannot ascertain, positively, that there were any Justices of the Peace or Constables in the County while it was under the jurisdiction of Pettis, Saline and Greene Couties. I think it quite probable that George H. Hughes, who was a justice at a very early day, while living on Judge Ham's place, was appointed while in Pettis County.

It is said by the old settlers that the people of this vicinity had some little business in the Courts of Pettis County, then held at a place on Muddy, called Pin Hook. I can hear of only one election in the County before it was organized. This was held at the house of Wm. Kelly, on the old Mannen Duren place, perhaps in 1834, and, I am informed by Mr. George Blanton, was attended with a fight, in which the voters generally participated.

VIII.

W A R S A W .

By the act organizing the County, Jan. 3, 1835, John Fisher, of Pettis, Thomas Kimsey, of Rives, and James McCutcheon, of Morgan, were appointed Commissioners to locate a County Seat. They were directed to meet at the house of William White, on Little Tebo, on the first Monday of April, 1835. For some reason, which I have been unable to discover, they did not do anything.

January 9, 1837, by another act of the Legislature, Bethel Allen, of Pettis, Henry Avery, of Rives, and Richard D. Bradley, of Johnson, were appointed to locate a County Seat, and directed to meet at the house of Markham Fristoe, near the Osage, on the second Monday of March, 1837. Both sets of Commissioners were directed to locate the County Seat as near the centre of the County, and the Osage River, as a suitable site could be found.

When the Commissioners came to make the location, an animated struggle took place between the friends of Old Town, or Fristoe Town, which was a village on the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 8, Tp. 40, R. 22, where the first house north of Warsaw, on the Sedalia road, now stands, and New Town, Log Town, Bristoe's Town, or Osage, which was on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 8, Tp. 40, R. 22, where Mr. A. H. Dice's house now stands. At each of these places a little town had been started, and at each a small store or two, a grocery, and perhaps other small shops, were in operation. Markham Fristoe led the fight for Fristoe Town, and Lewis Bledsoe for Osage. The Commissioners rejected both, and selected the present site of Warsaw, where there was then no building, save Stephen A. Howser's house, near where Gillett's Mill now stands. There was no road even, except a path leading down the branch where the Sedalia road now runs. The road then crossed at Bledsoe's Ferry, on the farm now owned by Dr. Crawford, and Fristoe's branch road ran across the ridge above town.

After Warsaw was located, Fristoe and Bledsoe united, and got up a sufficient petition to have the town located between them, on

the ridge, about one-fourth mile south of Mr. Dice's house. But through the efforts of Thomas J. Bishop, and others, a sufficient number withdrew their names from the petition to leave less than the necessary three-fifths of the tax-payers. Mr. C. P. Bullock, for Mr. Bledsoe, claimed that they had no right to withdraw their names, and sued in the Circuit Court for a mandamus to compel the County Court to change the location. Judge Wright decided that the petitioners had the right to take their names off before the petition was filed, and refused the mandamus. The case was decided at Judge Wright's first term, and occasioned much interest, John Wilson and James Winston, then of Boonville, and Judge Yancey, Hendricks and Waddle, of Springfield, taking part in it, as lawyers. Wm. L. Vaughn, soon afterwards, attempted to have the County seat moved to his farm one mile east of town, where he had a store and a projected town, called Argus, but failed.

On the location of the County seat, James Ramsey was appointed Commissioner. By order of the Court he had the site surveyed by Geo. Lewis, Deputy U. S. Surveyor, to ascertain the numbers of the land, and had a portion of it laid off into lots by Robert Wyatt, Surveyor. A map of the survey was received by the Court, Nov. 14, 1837, and on the 1st of Jan., 1838, the town was named Warsaw, and the Commissioner ordered to sell a portion of the lots on the 15th of Feb., 1838. On this day the first sale of lots took place. D. C. Ballou and S. A. Howser were allowed \$18.00 each for going to Springfield to prove up the pre-emption of the County to the quarter section of land on which the town was located.

In March, 1838, the building of a temporary Court House and Jail was ordered, and Adamson Cornwall was appointed Superintendent of Public Buildings. The Court House was let to Glover & Davis, and the Jail to Lewis Bledsoe. The Court House was a log house, built on the lot where the bank now stands, and was used until the present Court House was finished, in 1842. It was let at \$300, but deductions made for poor work. The Jail was built where it now stands, by Lewis Bledsoe. It was rebuilt, partly out of original material, in 1852, by Thomas Rank, Mark L. Means being Superintendent of the work. In Nov., 1838, and April, 1839, orders were made for the building of a permanent Court House, not to cost over \$2,500, and the contract was let to

Rolla M. Griffith. After doing some work on the foundation, he threw up his contract. Thos. J. Bishop was appointed Superintendent of Public Buildings, the plan was changed, a better building ordered, and the contract let, in 1840, to James J. Donald and Joel S. Shepherd, brick work, and B. W. Keown and Wm. Hurt, wood work. The house was in a condition to be used in 1842, but not completed. Indeed the upper story was never finished inside till the Masons leased it, about 1868. The original cost of the Court House, as near as I can ascertain, was about \$4,500. The town of Warsaw was incorporated, by order of the County Court, July 6, 1840, and D. C. Ballou, S. H. Whipple, S. A. Howser and J. M. Staley, appointed first Trustees. Feb. 23, 1843, the town was incorporated as a city, by an act of the Legislature, and the city government conducted under the charter till the war. The city organization was revived, after the war, but was suffered to lapse, and the town was again organized under the general law, by the County Court.

Before Warsaw was located, high hopes of a prosperous town in this locality were entertained. In Wetmore's Gazetteer, prepared in 1836, I find the following account of Osage, the town at Dice's: "The present proprietors of the town of Osage, consisting of men of large families, are about to take up their abode in the town, and establish there a seminary of learning, conducted by one of the best scholars (a graduate of an eastern college) that can be procured. Female teachers from Massachusetts will be likewise employed at the Osage Seminary. The proprietors are engaged in the erection of a hotel at the ferry, and a steam saw mill and flour mill will be erected next summer, on their own account. They will also build warehouses for the commission and forwarding business, on the river bank. With all the natural advantages of Osage, it is just to conclude that the population of this place will reach several thousand in five years, and even be second to St. Louis only, when compared with the other towns of the State. The country around the town of Osage is full of lead mineral, and the operations of experienced miners will shortly open rich and inexhaustible leads of this valuable ore."

Even after Warsaw was located, it was thought that the Osage was navigable only for keel boats, but very soon steamboats began to ply the river, and supply a very large section of country with goods, and the business of the town soon became very con-

siderable. Extravagant hopes of its future were indulged. Additions were laid off which have never yet had the brush cut off them, and the town was chartered as a city.

The first store was built by Adamson Cornwall, on the corner diagonally opposite Hastain's corner, where Bibb & Walls had their saddlery store for a long time. In the back room of their store the Clerk's office was kept for some time, and a large part of the records were destroyed here early in 1839, when the store was burned.

Mr. Cornwall had previously had a trading post in the old Bender field, at the mouth of Grand River, being attracted there, probably, by the Indian village on the other side of the Osage. His daughter, now wife of Albert Kincaid, was the first child born in Warsaw. The first firm which built up an important business was that of White & Ayres. They came here in 1841, with a small stock of goods, advanced by Wm. H. Trigg, of Boonville, and so active and profitable was their business that, in a short time, they owned a large brick storehouse, the first built in the town, and a large stock of goods. About 1846, having accumulated a large property, Mr. White engaged in the Santa Fe trade, and took a stock of goods across the plains, with his family. On the route his train was attacked by the Indians, and he was killed and his wife and little girl captured. The Indians were so closely pursued that they killed Mrs. White, and her body was found, still warm. The little girl was never recovered, although a large reward was offered for her. In 1843 James Atkinson came here, from Calhoun, and opened a store, and continued in business till 1861. He soon became a leading merchant, and one of the most public-spirited and prominent men in south-west Missouri. His mercantile operations were on a scale which would be considered large among the business men of Missouri, at this time. He was a very popular man, and had a strong hold on the confidence of the people. He was the leading spirit in the navigation and improvement of the river, the establishment of the bank, and most other public enterprises. Another prominent firm, which did a very large business, was that of R. C. Henry & Co. Mr. Henry came here from Howard County in 1843. Bennet & Shepherd came in 1844, and the firm, afterwards changed to A. C. & G. I. Shepherd, continued to do a prosperous business till 1861. J. M. Staley & Son afterwards went into business, and were doing

a very heavy trade at the beginning of the war. Dr. James Dunn, Jr., was for many years a prosperous druggist and prominent citizen. Bibb & Walls did the chief saddlery business. Our esteemed fellow citizen, J. G. Phillips, in early times, as now, controlled the furniture business. He is the only one of the very early business men who is still in business here. Barkley & Bro. at one time did an extensive business. In the prosperous days of the town, steamboats were running the river whenever the water was sufficient, and, frequently, several would unload at our wharves at the same time. Immense cargoes of salt, whisky, iron, &c., were unloaded here, and S. W. Missouri and N. W. Arkansas were chiefly supplied from this point. The glory of the town departed on the advent of the war, and the railroads. Its principal business houses were burnt by stragglers, on the withdrawal of Fremont's army from the Southwest in the fall of 1861.

IX.

EARLY COURTS.

On the 16th of February, 1835, the first session of the County Court was held, at the house of Markham Fristoe, which then stood in the bottom, just below the west landing of Powers' Ferry. There were present, to use the language of the record, the "worshipful Joseph C. Montgomery and John W. Lindsay, Judges, and Markham Fristoe, Sheriff, and Thomas J. Bishop, Clerk." These officers, together with Judge William White, who took his seat soon after, were appointed by Governor Daniel Dunklin, soon after the organization of the County. The first order made was to grant a grocer's license to Ezekiel Williams. I observe from the records that during the first four or five years after the county was organized, about one-half or two-thirds of all the licenses issued for business purposes, were for dram shops. There seems to have been a little whisky shop in every neighborhood. I believe there were then twice as many dram shops in the county as there are now.

Judge Montgomery then lived in what is now Hickory County, on the farm now occupied by Mr. Samuel Walker. He was elected representative in 1838, and was foreman of the Grand Jury at one term, during the "Slicker war." He was the father of the Montgomery who was killed at Warsaw by Hoagland some years ago.

Judge Lindsay lived in the bottom near Mr. James C. Orr's, on Sterrett's Creek. He afterward moved to the present farm of Wm. M. Wickliffe. He died on the bench in 1840.

Judge White lived first on the Jesse Drake place, and afterwards on Little Tebo, on the Redford farm, near Wm. M. Thompson's. He died at an early day, on this farm.

For three years, until the building of the log Court House, the Courts were generally held at the house of Markham Fristoe, on the north of the river, being the first house now standing out of town, on the Sedalia road. But the County Court was once or

twice held at John Isbell's house, near the spring, on the branch, on the south side of John Failer's farm. A short distance south of the spring, on the ridge in front of Mr. A. J. Wisdom's house, lived C. H. Allen, commonly known as "Horse" Allen, who was the first Circuit Judge, holding from 1835 to 1837. He located a claim on the bottom, south of Mr. Failer's. It seems he at one time lived on the bottom, near James C. Orr's. He also entered the tract of land at Mr. Dice's, where the town of Osage stood, but his son-in-law, C. P. Bullock, lived on it. His Circuit, (the 6th), consisted of the Counties of Rives, Pettis, Benton, Polk, Greene, Barry and Morgan. He moved here from Palmyra, Mo., when he was appointed Judge.

Judge Wright was appointed Judge in 1837. The Circuit then consisted of Benton, Pulaski, Polk, Greene, Barry and Taney, and was the 7th. These Counties then embraced about all of Southwest Missouri. Judge Wright held his first Court at Mr. Fristoe's house, and, there not being room for all the lawyers at Fristoe's, Judge Wright, Winston and John Wilson went out to board at John Smith's, who then lived near the grave yard, in Mr. John Failer's field. Judge Wright liking the prairie bottom out there, Mr. Smith gave him a part of his claim, and he soon after settled on his farm, and lived there till about 1844, when he moved to Warsaw. The first few years of Judge Wright's service was a stormy time in the history of our Courts. During this time the cases growing out of the Howard and Newson feud and the "Slicker war" were tried. Of the latter, some account will be given hereafter. Of the nature of the Howard and Newson feud I can get no very correct information. It seems to have existed soon after the organization of the County, between John H. Howard and Nathan Newson, both of whom lived on the river, below Warsaw, the latter keeping a ferry, for some time, at the farm now owned by Vaitch Light. Each had his party, and much bad feeling prevailed, resulting in many fist fights and law suits, and some bloodshed. One trial gave rise to an unusual manner of administering justice in this county. Howard had been indicted for unlawfully co-habiting with a woman who lived in his family, and was acquitted. Joseph McCarty had sworn against him on the trial, and he had him indicted and convicted of perjury. The sentence was, one dollar fine, one hour in jail, and one hour in the pillory. There being no

pillory, Sheriff Cornwall executed the latter part of the sentence by tying McCarty to a horse rack with a bridle rein. Among the lawyers who practiced in our Court at an early day, were Jno. S. Phelps, Charles S. Yancey, John S. Waddle, and L. Henricks, of Springfield, Jno. Wilson, of Boonville, father of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in 1871, and James Winston, famous as the author of the remark that "a turkey was a very inconvenient bird, being too much for one man and not enough for two." He and Hendricks both, afterward, moved to Warsaw, and, in 1844, I think, Winston ran for Governor, and Hendricks for Lieutenant Governor. Winston canvassed the State, traveling on foot. He was a very eccentric man, improvident in money matters, careless in his dress, but, withal, a man of unusual genius and eloquence. When he went to speak at St. Louis, his friends, ashamed of his shabby appearance, dressed him up in a suit of fine broadcloth, with swallow tail coat and stove pipe hat. After leaving St. Louis, he continued to foot it over the State in his new suit, and kept it on till it was worn out. He was elected State Senator in 1850. Among the resident lawyers were C. P. Bullock, D. C. Ballou, Benjamin P. Major, George Dixon, R. B. Ridgley, Mark L. Means, Thomas Ruffin and Felix Hunton. Benj. P. Major was elected State Senator in 1842.

X.

BANK OF NIANGUA.

About 1830, a man by the name of Garland came to the lower Big Spring, on Niangua, which is two miles above the crossing of the Linn Creek and Warsaw road. He greatly pleased the few settlers in that region by announcing his intention of putting up a fine grist mill. He never put up anything, however, at the spring, but a blacksmith shop. With him were Spence, Quillen, Cross and Earley, and perhaps others. It soon became known that they received occasional visits from companies of four or five well dressed and equipped men, who came from the direction of St. Louis, with the avowed purpose of starting iron works at the spring. No iron works, however, appeared, but the country was soon found to be flooded with counterfeit bank bills. Suspicion settled on Garland and his friends as the makers of them, and a party of hunters finally came upon them at their headquarters, in a secluded and almost inaccessible ravine near the spring. The counterfeiters fled, and the hunters found their counterfeiting implements under a shelving rock, and a large quantity of unsigned counterfeit bills. It is said their practice was to take the bills to St. Louis, and have them signed in a cellar by a Mrs. Skidmore, whose husband belonged to the band. The band was organized as a bank, with a President, Cashier, Clerks, and a Board of Directors. Some of them operated in St. Louis, putting the money in circulation there. They had agencies, facetiously called branch banks, scattered through the country, who aided in putting the bills out in the country. Several men, who were prominent in this county, at that time, were supposed to be "branches" of the bank. The operations of the Bank were large, and the bills so well executed that they passed readily with indifferent judges of money. A small store of Wyan & Trigg's, at Warsaw, which was conducted by their agent, is said to have received one of its \$100 bills, and to have been so crippled by the loss that it had to close up.

The band is said, by some, to have been broken up on the information of the hunters who discovered them. By others it is said that Mr. Skidmore dying, and the bank refusing to continue a proper share of the profits to Mrs. Skidmore, she went to the United States District Judge, at St. Louis, and exposed it. The Judge placed the case in the hands of Gen. Augustus Jones, United States Marshal, who succeeded in arresting Garland and his chief confederates, and seizing their implements. Some say they escaped, others that they were acquitted, because all the bills found in their possession were unsigned.

About the same time, and later, a man named Abee, with some confederates, made spurious coin at some point on Niangua, between the two Big Springs. Abee's money became famous all over this country, and a number of Benton County men were supposed to have aided in its circulation. One of them paid off an execution, in the hands of E. W. Ramsey, Deputy Sheriff, with sixty odd dollars, in bright new counterfeit silver coin. Mr. Ramsey discovering the money to be false, it was replaced with good, without a word. After an overflow, Mr. Josephus Gill discovered a large quantity of counterfeit gold on the river, below Warsaw, under a cabin that had been washed away. One of their crucibles was found in a cave, on the Gravois.

In 1874 a copper plate for printing U. S. Bank notes was plowed up in a field near Linn Creek, and Mr. Armstrong, of the *Linn Creek Rustic* took a very legible impression from it on coarse printing paper.

XI.

SLICKER WAR.

About the year 1839, came to Benton County, Hiram K. Turk, and his wife and four sons, James, Thomas J., Nathan and Robert. They settled on the road north of Quincy, just south of the old Archibald Cock place. Quincy was not then known, but that vicinity was called Judy's Gap, from Samuel Judy, who settled at the gap of prairie connecting Hogle's Creek prairie with the 25 mile prairie. Turk came from Tennessee where he had been selling goods. He is said to have had considerable property at one time, but was broken up when he came here. He had been Colonel of militia, in Tennessee, and was known here as Col. Turk. It is said that he had several buck shot in his body when he came. He and his boys at once opened a small store and dram shop, which became a kind of rallying point for the neighborhood. From the first, Hiram, James, and, in a less degree, Tom, acquired the reputation of being quarrelsome, violent, and overbearing men. Hiram, and, perhaps, James, drank to excess. They were men of fine forms, dressed well, for those times, and, in their better moods, were men of unusually courteous and dignified manners. They possessed more than an average degree of intelligence and education. Tom Turk's writing, found among the records, shows a trained business hand.

They had been here but a few months till we find them engaged in difficulties. We first have an indistinct account of James Turk swearing and threatening, on the arrest of some parties for theft. On the 18th of February, 1840, he made a violent assault on John Graham, a man of some prominence, at that time, in the neighborhood of Judy's Gap. On the next day Mr. Graham wrote the following note to the Justice of the Peace :

February the 19 day—1840.

mister wisdom sir please to come fourth with to my house and fetch your law books and come as quick as you can as I have been Lay waid by James turk and smartley wounded sow that I Cant Come to your house and is A afraid that he will Escape

JOHN GRAHAM.

The following is Graham's testimony in regard to the assault :

On the 18th of February I went to Jas. Dudley's Blacksmith Shop to get my brother's mare shod to ride to Sac River. On my return home I met James Turk, and when he got in about fifty or sixty yards of me he got off of his horse, led it to the bushes and hitched, and came up into the road rolling up his sleeves. When he got in fifteen or twenty steps of me, he named that he had been wanting to meet with me some time back. I halted my mare, and told him to stand back, and he said, "G—d d—n your soul, I don't ask you any odds." I reined my mare back, and he still rushed on towards me, with his staff drawn. I still told him the second time to "stand back and have some honor in him and not rush on a man in that way." By this time he had got within about three steps of me. He pitched at me, and, with his left hand, caught my mare by the bridle. He threw his hand behind him, and drew out his bowie knife, and aimed at me with it; and, as he struck at me, I jumped on the opposite side of the nag. He ran around the mare's head, where I was, and made another lick at me, and I broke to run. He took after me with his bowie knife, striking at me as I ran, swearing, "G—d d—n you, I will kill you." The distance we ran, I think, was about twenty or thirty yards. I think I fell twice or three times in the distance, and he kept striking at me. By that time I had got rather out of the thicket into open ground. I drew out a pistol and told him, if he rushed on me any further, I would kill him, and cocked it. He halted but very little when he saw the pistol presented at his breast, and still moving toward me with his bowie knife and club, I bursted a cap at him. I wheeled, then, to run, and he made at me with his bowie knife and club, and struck me with his club and knocked me down, and, as I was raising, he struck me across the head with his bowie knife. By this time Andy Ripetoe ran up facing Turk, and told him he had to stop. Turk observed to Ripetoe that he had nothing against him, but that he would kill me. He made a halt when Ripetoe told him to stop, and by that time I had got out of the thicket and up to my mare, and on her, and left him there, hunting the scabbard of his bowie knife. I lost my pistol when he knocked me down the last time, and I was afraid to go back into the thicket to hunt it while he was there. I went to Mrs. Ripetoe's and got a gun, and came back again to hunt my pistol. He was about one hundred and fifty yards from the place where we fought, in the road, going towards Judy's. He saw me coming with the gun, struck his horse, and broke in a gallop toward Judy's; then jumped off his horse and said, "G—d d—n you, come on; I will go home and get father, and all my brothers, and come to your house this night, and I will have your heart's blood at the risk of my life." Then I went into the thicket to look for my pistol, and saw it lying in the leaves where he knocked me down, and spoke to Ripetoe to pick it up; he did so, and we went back to his mother's, and stayed all night.

A warrant was issued, and W. W. McMillan deputized to execute it. With a posse of five men, he went to James Turk, and arrested him, but Turk refused to go to Graham's house for trial. Graham refused to go into the presence of Turk to testify till he was disarmed. Justice Wisdom ordered him to be disarmed, and took hold of him to assist, when old Hiram pulled him off, and Tom Turk drew his pistol, and made the officers stand off. The Turks and their friends then took James and went home. On McMillan's warrant, I find the return, "Levied on the body of Jas. Turk, Feb. 19, 1840," entered and

erased. A warrant was sworn out against them for rescuing a prisoner. Sheriff Smith went out and made the arrest, and they were bound over by 'Squire Wisdom,—James, for the assault; Tom, for rescuing James; and Hiram for the rescue, and to keep the peace toward John Graham, whom he had threatened. During the proceeding, Hiram Turk charged Justice Wisdom with prosecuting him through malice, whereupon the Justice fined him \$20, the collection of which Turk had stayed by writ of prohibition from the Circuit Court. These proceedings aided in planting the animosity that took shape in the Slicker war.

Some years before the Turks came to the County, the Joneses, four brothers, Andrew, Samuel, Isaac and John, had settled on Big Pomme de Terre, just above the Breshears' prairie. Among the early settlers they were prominent as horse racers and gamblers. They were coarse men, whose manners had been formed in the rough society of the borders. They are said to have been illiterate. I find their names always signed by mark.

At the August election, in 1840, held at Turk's house, James Turk and Andrew Jones became involved in a controversy about a bet on a horse race.* Jones proposed to fight it out in the usual style of those days, with the fists. Turk agreed, but stepping into the house, came out with a knife, and attacked Jones, when a general row ensued; Turk's father and brother assisting him, and two of the Keaton's, and others, assisting Jones. At the Circuit Court sitting a few days later, Tom, James and Robert, were indicted for a riot, and Hiram and James for the assault on Andrew Jones. John B. Clark was foreman of this Grand Jury, and Hendricks Circuit Attorney. At the December term, 1840, the three boys were convicted of the riot, and fined \$100. The fine was remitted by Gov. Thos. Reynolds. The case against Hiram and James was continued to the April term, 1841. A chief witness against the Turks was Abraham C. Nowell, a quiet and respectable citizen living three miles north-west of Judy Gap. The Turks had sworn he should never testify against them. On the morning of April 3, 1841, the first day of Circuit Court, Nowell, coming to Warsaw, in company with Julius Sutliff, who lived close to the Turks, was

*Other accounts say that the Turks had just opened a new stock of goods, and, making considerable sales on election day, soon discovered that several counterfeit bills, of the same denomination, had been passed on them. On inquiry, they traced them all back to Andy Jones, and the difficulty is said to have arisen from the Turks charging him with circulating counterfeit money.

overtaken at the branch this side of Arch. Cock's, and assaulted with a pistol, by James Turk. Nowell, in self-defence, got Sutliff's gun, and shot Turk dead. A full account of the affair is contained in the following evidence :

Julius Sutliff testified as follows :

On the first day of the Benton County Circuit Court, in the Spring Term, in 1841, I was at a Blacksmith shop belonging to Mr. Glazebrook, in Benton County. I found Mr. Nowell, Mr. Addington and others, there. Mr. Glazebrook's shop is about 400 yards from the house in which he lived. I started from the shop and went to Mr. Cock's, about 400 yards. I stopped at Mr. Cock's until Mr. Nowell and Mr. Addington came up, then got on my horse and started on with them. I rode on with them till they all came to a little branch, between Mr. Cock's and Mr. Bishop's. I here stopped to drink, and Mr. Nowell stopped by the side of me. Mr. Addington's horse stopped a few steps beyond us. While I was drinking, Mr. James Turk, and another gentleman, came up and passed Nowell and me. I heard Mr. James Turk speak to Mr. Addington, and say "Good morning." James Turk passed myself and Nowell about fifteen or twenty steps. He turned in his saddle, and said to Mr. Nowell, "Which one of your places, or quarters, shall I settle on?" Mr. Nowell said, "Neither." Turk said "I will be d——d if I don't." Mr. Nowell said, "Jimmy Turk, you can never settle on my place." Turk then replied "d——n your old soul, if you say much I will settle it on the spot." Nowell said, "no you won't." Turk, thereupon, got off his horse, and ran his hand in his pocket, on the left hand side of his coat, and drew out a pistol, and advanced on Nowell. Nowell told Turk to stop. When Turk got his pistol out, Nowell spoke to me and said "let me have your gun." Turk was still advancing. Nowell took the gun from me and drew it up to his face, Turk still advancing. Nowell told him to stop, and, if he advanced any further, he would shoot him. Turk kept on advancing and Nowell shot him. James Turk's general character was that of a fighting man. I was his nearest neighbor; never had any difficulty with him myself. Mr. Nowell has the reputation of being a peaceable man; I never heard of him quarrelling with any other man.

John Prince testified as follows :

I heard James Turk say that Mr. Nowell was a main witness, and never should give in evidence against them, that he intended to take the d——d old son of a b——h off his horse and whip him, so he could not go to court. Turk further said that if they took the case to Springfield he would have him (Nowell,) fixed so he never would get there; I think that the case in which Nowell was a witness, is the case that Andrew Jones had against James Turk and Hiram K. Turk. I think it was about a fight that took place at Hiram K. Turk's on an election. I think that the parties to the fight, from what I understood, were Jones, James Turk, Hiram K. Turk, and perhaps Bob Turk. This conversation I had with James Turk in the last part of last month, about a week before the spring term of the Benton Circuit Court, 1841.

Nowell being told by his friends that the Turks would kill him, fled the country, but returned in September, went to the Sheriff, was committed to jail and bailed out. He was tried at the April term, 1842, and acquitted, Thomas Rank being foreman of the Jury. Phelps, Ben. P. Major and Ridgley defended him. Dixon was Circuit Attorney. On the death of Jas. Turk and the flight of Nowell, the cases against Jas. Turk were dismissed, and

those against Hiram continued, and he was killed before they were again called.

During the spring in which James Turk was killed, Hiram and Tom. Turk were engaged in a number of petty lawsuits with their neighbors, and I have an imperfect account of Hiram Turk going to the house of Arch. Cock after night, in liquor, and breaking into the house with the avowed purpose of killing Cock; Tom. followed him and prevented him from doing any harm.

But the first event after the killing of James Turk which had a marked effect in fixing the animosity between the Turks and Joneses, was the kidnapping of James Morton. Morton was related by marriage to the Joneses. In 1830 he had killed a Sheriff in Alabama, who was attempting to arrest him, and fled to this County. On the 20th of May, 1841, one McReynolds called on Sheriff Smith, at Warsaw, with a copy of an indictment found against Morton in Alabama, and a copy of a proclamation of the Governor of Alabama, offering \$400 reward for him. The Sheriff not deeming the papers sufficient refused to make the arrest. McReynolds declared he would get somebody to make the arrest, and went on South. He fell in with the Turks, with whom he had probably been in communication before, and on the evening of the 21st of May, they went with him to take Morton. The circumstances of the arrest are given in the following testimony of Wm. Paxton, before D. C. Ballou, Justice of the Peace:

I was better than a mile from mine and Rankin's mill. I was going home on foot. Hiram K. Turk overtook me on the road and told me that a couple of gentlemen from Alabama had come on with authority to take Morton. He said that they were then going to take Morton, as he understood that he was at the mill. There was no one immediately along with Turk then. The company was at the left of Turk and myself. Hiram Turk and myself and the company, met just at the edge of the prairie. The company consisted of Condley, Rice, Thos. Turk, McReynolds and Gunter. The company consulted together and it was agreed by the company (I do not think that Rice and Condley said anything,) that Mr. McReynolds and Turk should go the way I was going, and they went with me. The others took a left hand road and I did not see any of them except Rice until they met at the mill. After Turk, McReynolds and myself started towards the mill, Turk insisted that I should ride his horse as he was tired of riding, which I did, and Turk then went ahead, McReynolds and myself staid behind talking together. Just behind the mill in the edge of the woods, James Morton was gathering up plank. Turk went towards him and appeared to say something to him, and I think that Morton answered Turk, though I did not hear what was said. Morton stooped down to gather up more plank and Turk jumped and caught Morton by the waistband and the back of the neck, and told him that he need not make any resistance that he could not get loose, that he was in the hands of a man. Morton said he was not trying to get loose, or, who was trying to get loose. Turk let go of his collar and Morton insisted on know-

ing by what authority they took him. I think Turk told him "we will show you." McReynolds got off of his horse and pulled out a pistol. Morton asked what that pistol was out for. McReynolds told him that if he attempted to get away or make any resistance it was to shoot him with. Turk spoke to McReynolds and told him to get the strap. McReynolds got out the strap and Turk held Morton and McReynolds tied him. Morton complained that they were tying him too tight. Morton was then lead out of the woods to the road. I cannot say who lead him. Morton still insisted on knowing by what authority they took him. Turk said it would be there in a few moments. Turk and all made a move down the road to meet the other company which had not got there yet. Just as they got started the other company came in sight. Gunter who was foremost got down off of his horse and took a rope and tied around the strap that fastened Morton's arms together. Morton asked Condley if he was the officer who was taking him, and he said that he had nothing to do with it. They then put Morton on a horse and took him back to my house. They all ate supper at my house except Morton, who would not eat anything. They all got their horses ready, and Turk took off his coat and put it on Morton, and I think Thos. Turk put Morton on the horse. He was still bound. When Morton was asked to eat he said they would never get him to Alabama and that he never would eat another bite in the world. McReynolds said he would show his authority for taking Morton to the proper authority and took a paper from his pocket. It had some writing on it and something that looked like a State seal. I did not examine it. I understood from Turk and McReynolds that they intended to take Morton to Alabama. In the first place I think they talked of giving him up to Sheriff Smith. The company consulted together before they left my house, and the conclusion was that they should take him to Alabama. They talked of going by the way of Bolivar, also by Boonville, and Jefferson City and Cape Girardeau.

The mill at which Morton was taken, was on the Pomme de Terre, below Hermitage, at the place where Hickman's mill now stands. Morton was taken during the night to Mr. E. T. Condley's house, and also to Mr. Judy's. Mr. Condley then had a blacksmith shop on the rocky ridge road beyond Mr. N. Campbell's house, where the old North Prairie and Judy's Gap road crossed. On the morning of the 22nd they crossed the ferry at Warsaw before sunrise and pushed on to the Missouri River. They were closely pursued by Morton's friends, including Judge Geo. Alexander, whose sister Morton married, but got out of the state. Morton was tried and acquitted, and returned in about a year. It is said that some connection with the trial of Morton, led to the removal of Judge Burr H. Emerson to this county.

Hiram K. Turk was arrested and bound over for kidnapping, by D. C. Ballou, Justice of the Peace. He was indicted and the indictment quashed about the time of his death; Finch, Otter and Hendricks were his Attorneys. The kidnapping of Morton warmed the already bad blood of the Joneses to murderous heat. According to the confession of Jabez L. Harrison when he was whipped by the Turks, a conspiracy was formed a few days after

Morton was taken off, to kill Hiram K. and Tom Turk. The Joneses of whom Andrew was the leader, engaged the co-operation of their friends and the enemies whom the Turks had made, and about the first of July 1841, Harrison says they met at the house of Archibald Cock and entered into an agreement to kill Hiram K. Turk, a writing being drawn up by Henry Hodge binding them to kill Turk, and to kill any one of the party who should divulge the conspiracy. Harrison says that the following parties entered into the agreement, viz: Andrew Jones, Nicholas Suden, Wm. Brookshire, Milton Hume, John Williams, Henry Hodge, Thomas Meadows, Josiah Keaton, James L. Keaton, John Whittaker, Archibald Cock and Jabez L. Harrison. Mr. Cock, Harrison says, agreed to give Harrison a horse to join in killing the Turks. Justice to Mr. Cock, the Keatons and Mr. Hume, requires the statement here, that they were acquitted of this charge by the Courts. But such a conspiracy was doubtless formed, for on the 17th of July, 1841, Hiram K. Turk was shot from the brush and mortally wounded. He had been attending a law suit at Squire Alex. Breshear's, on Pomme de Terre, and was returning in the afternoon in company with Alex. and Thos. Cox, friends of the Turk's who lived near Judy's Gap, Andrew Turk and E. T. Condley. Andrew Turk was not related to the Turk's, but coming through the county and learning they were of the same name with himself, he stayed with them a while and took a hand in many of their difficulties. The company were riding along a road now disused, running from North Prairie to Judy's Gap through the Breshears prairie. This road passed by the house of Squire Sampson Norton, which is the second house south of Pomme de Terre on the Warsaw and Hermitage road. Here many of the examinations were had during the "Slicker War." About a quarter of a mile west of Norton's while passing up a brushy hollow, Turk and Condley being some distance behind the others, a gun was fired from the brush, Turk's horse sprang forward and Turk fell off, exclaiming "I am a dead man." Mr. Condley while raising him up heard another gun fire, and Jabez Harrison afterwards said that he shot at Condley and would have killed him had he not stooped. The Cox's and Andy Turk ran back in great alarm. Andy Turk started at once to Warsaw for a doctor, and returned after dark with Drs. Tabor and Bush. The others took Turk back to Norton's, where he remained until a few

days before his death, when he was taken home. He died August 10th, 1841. He was shot in the back of the left shoulder, the ball lodging under the right shoulder blade. Dr. Tabor attended him almost daily till his death, receiving for his services \$118.

Circuit Court was in session at the time of Turks death, and Andrew Jones was indicted for the murder, and Milton Hume, Henry Hodge, Jabez Harrison and John Whittaker for conspiring to kill Hiram K. and Thos. J. Turk. Joseph C. Montgomery was foreman of the Grand Jury and Dixon Circuit Attorney. Harrison afterwards confessed that himself, Andy Jones, Henry Hodge and two others were in the brush when Turk was killed, and that Hodge shot him. Andy Jones was tried and acquitted December 9th, 1841, the evidence being insufficient to convict him. Harrison had not yet made his confession. Jones was defended by Hendricks, Otter and Ridgley. Hume's case hung in Court for more than a year, during a large part of which time he was kept in jail, The case against him was dismissed December, 1842, Henry Hodge, Harrison and Whittaker, who were indicted with him having left the country.

When the Turk's failed to convict Andy Jones they resolved to take the law in their own hands, and the Slicker War proper began. They determined to compel a confession as to who killed Hiram K. Turk, and to drive the Joneses and their chief friends from the country. To carry out these objects, Tom. Turk regularly organized a company of his friends to the number of about thirty, and had them sign an agreement. To justify themselves to the public their professed purpose was to drive out horse thieves, counterfeiters and murderers.

While so far as I can learn, none of the Jones party were ever convicted of horse stealing, there were several circumstances which gave much plausibility to this charge against them. In December, 1840, Bird D. Parks of Henry County, had a horse to stray from him, and it was taken up at Mr. Hunts, near Cole Camp. A few days after, Champlangford Carter who ran with the Joneses, claimed the animal and took it to Cole County. Samuel Parks and James Y. Parks brothers of Bird D., followed him, found the horse in his possession, and had him arrested and committed to jail at Warsaw. Andy Jones, Wm. Brookshire and John Thomas, constant associates of each other, and of Carter,

bailed him out. He confessed his guilt by running off. Andy Jones and Jabez Harrison made a pretense of going to Arkansas to bring him back. Harrison got a horse from Arch Cock for the trip, which he claimed was given him for helping to kill Hiram K. Turk. The habits of Jones and some of his closest friends, also gave color to the charge of horse stealing. They did not stay at home at regular work, but were much of their time absent, and not about any known legitimate business. Soon after Andy Jones was acquitted, B. H. Williams and Joseph Sharp lost a horse apiece, and they were found in the latter part of January, 1842, on Warbleau, under the control of Morgan Trahan another crony of Jones. In pursuing the horses they also found where a deer had been killed, and a knife supposed to belong to Jones lying by it. Jones was known to have spent the night with Trahan, at a house near where the horses were found. About the time these horses were found, Jno. and Moses Owsley came down from Muddy Creek, in Johnson County, in search of stolen horses. They represented that they had been horse racing with Andy Jones and his associate Thomas Meadows on Muddy, and charged Meadows with stealing their horses. I may state here, however, that they afterwards found their horses in Cass County, where they had followed a mare bought from that County. The Owsley's fell in with the Turk company, and all these charges fixing a serious suspicion on Jones and his friends, the Turk's seized the opportunity to make their attack. Their company was rallied on the 28th of January, 1842. Among the men going with the Turk company or approving it, the following names were prominent: Thomas J. Turk, Nathan Turk, Robert Turk, Andrew Turk, Isam Hobbs, John Hobbs, Jeff. Hobbs, Alex. D. Cox, Thomas Cox, James Cox, Thomas Draffin, Nathaniel Hamilton, James Rankin, Alex. Brown, Robert Brown, Chas. S. Brent, James Jackson, Anslem Jackson, Wm. Norton, James Morton, Alston Gregory, Wm. Evans, Wm. Y. Evans, John Hobaugh, Joseph C. Montgomery, Ben. Miller, Eph. Jamison, and James Mackey. Tom. Turk was leader, and his brothers, the Hobbses, Coxes, Draffin and Gregory, his most active followers. Mackey was bugler, and got the name "Sore Mouth Mackey" from blistering his lips blowing his horn.

The prominent men of the Jones party were Andrew Jones who was the leading spirit, Samuel Jones, John Jones, Isaac Jones,

Henry Hodge, Thomas Meadows, William Brookshire, Jabez L. Harrison, Loud Ray, Harvey White, Luther White, Nicholas Suden, Julius Sutliff, John A. Whitaker, Milton Humes, Berry Chapman, Jno. W. Chapman, John Thomas, John Williams, James Blakemore, Lee T. Blakemore, Archibald Coek, and Abraham Nowell. Several of these men, among others the last four, were not charged with being engaged with the Joneses in any dishonest operations but were on the Jones side on account of personal hostility to the Turks.

When the Turk company rallied on Friday the 28th of January, 1842, they set out with the avowed purpose of "running all the d——d rascals out of the country." They went down on Pomme de Terre to Andy Jones house about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Owsleys from Henry County were with the company on this expedition. The only men they found at Andy Jones' were John Jones and Berry Chapman. Tom Turk asked John Jones how many men were there to fight them, and on Jones replying none but himself and Chapman, Turk seized Chapman and they took him a short distance from the house, tied him to a tree and took a vote as to whether they should whip or shoot him. They decided to whip. Turk told Chapman that he and all his friends were counterfeiters, horse thieves and highway robbers, and that they intended to kill all the Joneses, but if Chapman would tell them who killed Hiram K. Turk they would not whip him. Whether he confessed is not known, but they released him without whipping and ordered him to leave the County by next morning, on penalty of death. They left and when night came on they went to the house of Thomas Meadows, who was accused of stealing Owsley's horses. He lived on Pomme de Terre near Andy Jones. I have no detailed account of the visit to his house. They got him out of his house, stripped and tied him to a tree, and whipped him ("slicked" him as they called it,) most unmercifully with hickory withes. By the time they finished the blood was running in a stream six feet from him. He owned that Andy Jones had stolen three horses and three mules, but denied that he stole Owsley's horses. As above stated it was afterwards ascertained that he was guiltless of this charge. My best information is that he died in a short time from the "slicking," though others say he did not. In the latter part of the same night they went to the house of

William Brookshire and slicked him almost as severely as they did Meadows. This seems to have ended their work of Friday night. On Saturday evening they started out from Rankins' mill and went down to Samuel Jones' house, but not finding him at home they went across the Pomme de Terre to North Prairie, to John Wood's Mill. As they approached the mill they saw two men gallop off toward the house of Major James Blakemore, then County Surveyor, who lived on the farm now occupied by Capt. Ben. Reeder. They followed, and after considerable searching found Isaac Jones under the kitchen bed, in Blakemore's house. They took him over to Rankins' mill, abused him, and threatened him, but finally turned him loose about seven o'clock, ordering him to leave the County in ten days. They then went on to the north end of the Twenty-five Mile Prairie, to the house of Luther White, and slicked him. The following is his own account of it, taken from his evidence before E. T. Major, Justice of the Peace:

On the night of January 29, 1842, about half an hour after dark, Thomas J. Turk, Thomas Draffin, Robert Turk, Nathan Turk, N. Hamilton, Thomas Cox, Charles S. Brent, Samuel Brown, Sam Hobbs, John Hobbs, and another Mr. Hobbs, whose name I did not know, Anslem Jackson, William Evans and William Y. Evans, came to my house armed with guns and pistols. Thomas Cox said he wanted to get into my house, and I asked him who he was. He answered that his name was White. I told him that he could not get in. He swore he would get in if he had to break down the door. He said he believed that I had the Joneses there, hid in my house. I told him there was no person there but my own family. He then told me that he had nothing against me, that the Joneses were a set of horse thieves, counterfeiters and murderers, and he believed that I had them hid in my house, and said to me "Mr. White let me in and you shall not be injured. We have nothing against you." I then opened the door and let Cox in, and he examined the house and found no one there but my family. He then took a chair and sat down by the fire, and told me that he and his company had caught Thomas Meadows and given him three hundred lashes, and made him own that Andrew Jones had stolen three horses and three mules; and also, that they had caught William Brookshire, and had given him as many lashes as they had given Meadows, and that they had made Brookshire own who had killed Hiram K. Turk. I asked Cox who it was that had killed Hiram K. Turk. He said that Andrew Jones, Jabez Harrison and Henry Hodge were in the bushes. He also told me they had caught Julius Sutliff, and found a large quantity of counterfeit money on his person. He then got up and stepped towards the door, getting between me and the gun, where it was lying in the rack. He then presented his gun at me and cocked it, and put it against my breast, and called to the boys out side to break the door down quick. They then commenced kicking and knocking against the door. Cox told them to kick down the door, quick, that they would have the d---d rascal. He gave the door a kick from the inside and broke a small chain with which it was fastened, and the door flew open. It opened on the out side of the house. They all then rushed in, and Thomas J. Turk drew out two pistols and cocked them, and said now we have the d---d old news packer. Then as many of them as could get a hold of me, took hold and carried me out of doors. They tied me and took me over to Samuel Browns and kept me there until they could get their supper. While there some

of them roasted hickory withes saying they were for my old back. They then took me near half a mile on the State road, after they left Browns, to William Evans', and there stripped me of my clothes and tied me to a tree, and whipped me. Robert Turk struck me the first four or five licks, then a one eyed man that I did not know commenced, and struck twelve or fifteen licks with a switch. He then stopped about five minutes. The others told him that was not the way to do, and the one eyed man then commenced on me again. I think he struck me about twelve or fifteen licks with the switch and stopped. Thomas J. Turk then said, "lets kill the d—d old son of a b—h," and said that he wanted to blow my brains out. The one eyed man struck me four or five licks more and then they turned me loose, and told me to go home. They said they thought they had made an honest man of me, and told me to keep out of the company of the Joneses, and if I did not leave inside of ten days, that was nothing to what they would give me. I then went home.

After slicking White they went to bed at the house of Judge Montgomery, and other houses in the neighborhood. By sunrise next (Sunday) morning they were at the house of John A. Whitaker, who lived at the first house in the edge of the prairie on the road going from Warsaw to Springfield. They demanded of him to open his house to let them search for horse thieves, counterfeitors and murderers, and told him they were in search of Milton Humes and Jones. He refused to admit them until they promised not to hurt him. Finding no one but the family in the house, Tom Turk insisted on slicking him, saying he thought it was understood before they came that he was to have a brushing. The others refused to consent and they ordered him to leave in ten days under severe penalties. A few days afterward they went to his house again, decoyed him out by pretending to be his friends, and gave him about thirty lashes.

A few days after Meadows, Brookshire and White were whipped, Jabez L. Harrison was at Samuel Browns store, which was on the old road a short distance north of where Wheatland now stands. Old Mr. Cruce who stuttered badly was there, and seeing a company of men coming said to Harrison "y-yonder c-comes them s slickers. Y-y-you'd better l-leave here, y-you d-d-damned r-rascal; t-they'll e-eat you and w-whip you to d-death." But he refused to go, and they took him off near Mr. Whitehead's house and gave him a cruel lashing. In the language of my informant, they "cut him to the hollow." They afterwards said he had the tenderest skin of any man they slicked. It was at this time that they made him confess the plot to kill Hiram K. Turk. A few days after they were slicked, Brookshire and White, who were drinking men, met at Brown's store and while drinking got to talk-

ing about being slicked. White asked Brookshire to let him see his back. On examining it he said to Brookshire with a lisp, that was habitual with him, "Wellth, Billy, they euth my rindth a heap worse than they didth yourn."

This was all the slicking that was done with the exception of Samuel Yates, who was slicked eighteen months afterwards near Warsaw. These slickings threw the whole County into excitement, and the feeling was so intense that the entire community took sides in sentiment with one party or the other, and many good citizens openly favored each side and gave them aid in their law suits.

As soon as the slicking began the Jones party swore out warrants before Squires Sampson Norton and Alex. Breshers, on Breshers' prairie, and Edward T. Major at Warsaw, against the Turk party, and had nearly all the prominent men bound over. A number of the Jones party were recognized as witnesses against them. The Turk party retaliated by swearing out warrants against several of the Jones party. Andy was bound over on a charge of stealing Jno. Woods' bull and killing him for beef at a Christmas frolic, a few days after he was acquitted of killing Hiram K. Turk. Arch. Cock and the Keatons were arrested on Jabez Harrison's testimony for conspiring to kill Hiram K. Turk. All through the months of February and March, 1842, the parties waged against each other a war of criminal prosecutions. The excitement had grown so great that the militia was called out, under the direction of Col. D. C. Ballou. Capt. John Holloway having had experience in the Black Hawk war, was in command in the field. A number of expeditions were made by the militia to make arrests. In executing the warrant against Andy Jones for stealing the bull, he was pursued through the north end of the Twenty-five Mile Prairie. He took refuge in the house of Horace Dark, and on Alex. Cox, a prominent Turk man, demanding of him to surrender, he fired at Cox and said he would have killed him had not his gun gone off too soon. He was bound over for this assault. A few days after, while the two parties were in Warsaw attending to examinations, Andy Jones drew his Gun on Cox again, in front of Walls old book store, then known as the "Duch Fort," it being a grocery kept by John Mayer and the headquarters of the Jones party. He was bound over for this assault also.

During the excitement of these prosecutions, the two parties came to Warsaw in companies, numbering near a hundred men each, fully armed. But strange to say no serious collision occurred between them. On one occasion the Turks who had their headquarters in what is now the Hastain House, fearing the Joneses were too strong for them, circulated the report that they had a cannon, and thrusting an old stovepipe out at a window put the Joneses to precipitate flight. Many minor altercations took place in town at this time, and subsequently when law suits were going on. Thomas Howser, who sympathized with the Joneses, got into a quarrel with Hobaugh and Mackey, Turk men, cut Hobaugh and was shot by Mackey. Wm. Terry was attacked by Tom. Turk and Isam Hobles and knocked down with a club, in the old Dutch Fort. This house was the scene of nearly all their rows.

After the slicking was over the Turks continued to scour the country, threatening to slick the Jones men, and ordering them out of the country. About this time Jacob Dobkyns was killed, but I am not able to fix the time of his death. The Turks were threatening to whip one Metcalf, who lived in the neighborhood of Quincy, and he requested several of his friends to spend the night with him, among others Dobkyns. During the night a shot was fired through a crack of the door, and Dobkyns instantly killed. It was reported that Robert Turk fired the shot, intending to kill Metcalf. The threats of the Turks, together with the fact that the weight of public sentiment was against the Joneses, drove the chief men among them out of the country, and when the April Court, 1842, came on they failed to appear, and their bonds were forfeited. This practically terminated the "Slicker War" proper, but a number of terrible tragedies growing out of it, took place during the next two years.

At the April Court, 1842, Abraham C. Nowell was tried for the murder of James Turk and acquitted. During the following spring and summer, with the exception of an assault on Arch. Cock by Robert Turk, June 20, but little violence prevailed. During this year and the next, occasional rumors would be circulated that the Joneses were in the country, and the Turks would organize and patrol the country, with considerable demonstrations of violence.

The Turks had been dissatisfied with the acquittal of Nowell, who spent most of his time away from home. In October 1842,

learning that he was at home they secreted themselves near his house, which was three miles north-west of Quincy, on the morning of October 18th, to kill him. On coming out of his house early in the morning to get a bucket of water from a barrel in front of the door, he heard a gun fire and as he raised up to see whence the shot came, another gun fired and he received a bullet near his heart. He staggered back a few steps and fell dead in his door. Four men were seen to run off, and their places of ambush were afterwards found. A daughter of Mr. Nowell, Mrs. John B. Lemon, is still living in this County, and from her I have obtained much information in regard to the Slicker War.

From the killing of Nowell dates the division of the Turk men among themselves. It is said that Tom Turk fired first at Nowell, and that Isam Hobles fired the shot that killed him. Hobbs accused Turk of missing him on purpose in order to throw the killing of him on Hobbs. From this grew a bitter quarrel between them, the particulars of which I have been unable to obtain, the indictments against them having been found in Polk County, and the records afterwards destroyed. It seems that the Turks and Hobbs lived, at this time, some distance beyond Quincy. Isam Hobbs was frequently indicted, in Polk, for assaults, and for gambling, as well as for murder. Tom. Turk was also probably indicted in Polk. While on his way to Bolivar, as a witness in some case, Jeff. Hobbs was waylaid and killed. This was probably in 1843. In the same year, perhaps, Thomas Draffin was found dead, shot through the head, the shot having entered at his mouth. The Turks buried him as quietly as possible, and reported that he had committed suicide. It was supposed however, that he had been murdered. It is known that he had sent a message to Mrs. Nowell, proposing to see her and tell her who it was that killed her husband, and it was supposed he was killed to prevent this disclosure.

In September 1843, it was reported that Andy Jones was in the country, and Tom. and Robert Turk, and several of their principal followers, came down to Warsaw on the 19th. They rallied at the house of W. L. Vaughn, below Warsaw, with a number of citizens living in the vicinity of Warsaw. At night they went down the river and searched the houses of Elijah Cherry and one Donaghoe, who lived near where Gray Cook now lives. From there

they went over to the house of Samuel Yates, who lived on the farm now owned by Mrs. Shaver. Deputy Sheriff John B. Ferguson was along, with a writ for Jones. Yates refused to admit them, and the Sheriff becoming satisfied that Jones was not there, he and many others went home. But the Turks and others remained, and just before day, got Yates out of the house by promising not to hurt him. They tied him to a tree and gave him a severe whipping with a cowhide. In the struggle to tie him his wife seized a gun, and would have fired on them had she not been restrained by one of the company. Thirty-eight men including a number of most respectable citizens, were indicted for this affair; among others, Elijah W. Ramsey, Wm. L. Vaughn, Jonathan Martin, John B. Ferguson, George H. Hughes, George Blanton, James Walthall, James Thurman, Billington Johnson, Benj. H. Williams and Wm. Lankford. The case was dismissed as to most of these, it being clear that they were not present, or not active participants. All the others were acquitted, except Jonathan Martin who was fined \$23.10. He thinks he must have been fined because he was the only man who showed any mercy to Yates, having untied him. He appealed to the Supreme Court and the judgment against him was reversed. The Turks were indicted but never tried. A short time after, while Tom. Turk was returning from a blacksmith shop, where he had been to get his horse shod, preparatory to starting for Kentucky, he was way-laid by Isam Hobbs and shot dead. Hobbs was arrested, broke jail, and fled to Potosi, in S. E. Mo.; was re-taken, again escaped from the Bolivar jail, fled to Tennessee and was riddled with bullets and instantly killed, in attempting to escape arrest there.

Nathan Turk followed the Jones to Texas, and Andy Jones, Harvey White, Loud Ray, and perhaps others of the Jones party, were hung there, through his instrumentality, for horse stealing and killing friendly Indians. He himself was killed in an affray at Shreveport. Soon after the death of Tom. Turk, his mother and her youngest son, Robert, returned to Kentucky. She is said to have deeply deplored the violence of her sons and husband. Her share in this bloody drama is unwritten, but it is hard to conceive of a heavier burden of woe than fell to her lot.

XII.

NOTED CRIMINAL TRIALS.

In 1840, Wm. Grizzle was tried on a change of venue from Pulaski County. He was indicted and found guilty of murder in the first degree and Sheriff Smith erected a scaffold for his execution in the hollow, between the hills, a short distance south of Mr. E. S. Drake's house. A large concourse of people gathered to witness the execution, and the prisoner was on the scaffold, when a commutation by the Governor to imprisonment in the Penitentiary was produced. Judge Wright had received the commutation some days before, with instructions to hold it to the last moment, to see if he would not confess. He did confess to the killing some days before the day of execution, but his confession being coupled with the charge that he slew the man for improper familiarity with his wife, the commutation was carried into effect. Another account says he had killed a man with whose wife he had been unduly familiar, having waylaid him as he came from mill.

In 1844, a quarrel arose between Ben P. Major, a prominent lawyer, and at the time State Senator, and Elijah Cherry, who had been County Judge, and was a well-known citizen. The difficulty grew out of a political contest. They met on Main Street, became involved in a fight, and Cherry cut Major so that he died shortly afterwards. Cherry was acquitted.

Another noted homicide was the killing of John H. Wilson by Thomas Coats, in 1845. Bad feeling arose between them at a party, at a hotel, and meeting afterwards on Main Street, a few hot words passed, and Coates stabbed Wilson, and killed him. Coates, also, was acquitted.

I believe this was the last trial for a capital offense committed in the County, until after the war. Just before the war Haythornwhite was bound over for the murder of Vannoy, but he went off during the war, and was never tried.

The most prominent name in the criminal annals of the County was that of Stephen H. Howser, commonly called Hogue Howser. He was a son of Stephen A. Howser, the first settler at Warsaw. He was commonly supposed to have murdered — Holloway on the plains, *en route* to California. He also killed a man named Farris, in Gasconade County, in 1853, was tried at St. Louis, and sentenced to the penitentiary in 1859, and pardoned. At the beginning of the war he had acquired a wide reputation as a lawless man. Soon after the war began he wantonly killed a man at Bolivar. Soon afterwards, as he rode out of town with Mr. D. D. Jones, he shot him dead in the road, at the corner of Mr. Powers' field. His motive is supposed to have been to get Jones' money. He was followed to Vernon County by some of our best citizens, and killed, while attempting to escape from a house in which they had surrounded him.

XIII.

POMME DE TERRE BRIDGE.

In 1837, John H. Howard, who at first settled on the river below Warsaw, near where Mr. P. W. Duckworth now lives, moved to the farm now owned by the heirs of E. B. Cunningham, and established a ferry on the Pomme de Terre, at the upper end of the field, on the State road. The road then left the present road south of Mr. Albert Crabtree's, passed by the Cunningham house, and crossed the creek near the farm now owned by John H. Johnson. I think Jonathan Harris then lived on that farm. Mr. Harris and Mr. N. Campbell laid off a town on their farms, and called it Fairfield, and had a post office, and perhaps some small business houses. In 1836 Judge Geo. Alexander obtained a license to keep a ferry, near his house, on the Osceola road, below where the bridge now stands. On the 8th of June, 1841, the County Court appointed D. C. Ballou and B. W. Keown to select a location for a bridge on the Pomme de Terre, with instructions to locate it between the crossing of the Springfield road and the crossing of the Osceola road. They reported Dec. 22d, 1841. The report was laid over, and seems never to have been acted on. October 18, 1843, an order was made, locating the bridge at Alexander & Cornwall's mill, Alexander, Cornwall and Elbert being judges. Thos. J. Bishop was appointed commissioner to contract for building it, and it was not to cost over \$2,000. July 15, 1844, the stone work was let to Capt. Jno. Holloway, by order of court, at \$2,486. Holloway completed his work March 1846, and was allowed \$100 for extra work. The wood work, on a cheap plan, was first let July 15, 1844, to Wilson C. Foster, at \$499. But the plan was afterwards changed, and the present plan, by Monroe Asbury, was let to Foster in May, 1845, at \$1,622.66. He was paid \$72.66 for extra work on completion of his contract in April, 1846.

Soon after the bridge was let, a number of citizens of Alexander Township presented a petition to have the bridge built at

Howard's ferry, where the town of Fairfield had been originally laid off. The court appointed Milton Kinkead, Stephen A. Howser and James P. Bone to examine and report on the advantages of the respective sites, and on their reporting in favor of the present site, the bridge was built there.

CALIFORNIA EXCITEMENT.

From the close of the Slicker war, in 1844, till 1861, but few events of a remarkable nature occurred in the history of the County, and I shall only make brief mention of that period, in addition to the allusion to it under the various heads of this sketch.

The effects of the Mexican war, and the gold fever of 1849, were strongly felt in the County. The demand for live stock created by the war, and the emmigration to California, had a marked influence in raising prices, and giving activity to business, and, probably, did more than all other causes to bring relief from the stagnation caused by the crash of 1837. The organization of a company for the Mexican war is spoken of elsewhere. The California gold excitement was high here, as it was generally in the West. Many of our prominent men crossed the plains, some to stay for a short period, others with their families, intending to remain. A few made money, but it is doubtful whether the majority would not have done better to have remained at home in their usual pursuits.

CHOLERA.

The year 1849 is notable for the prevalence of cholera at Warsaw. In June of that year James Blakey and William Peak returned from the South, where they had taken a drove of horses. On June 6th, Mr. Blakey, who was the husband of Mrs. Sarah E. Blakey, still living at Warsaw, was attacked with cholera, and died the next day. Mr. Peak was also attacked, and in a very short time died. Mr. Blakey's child and sister, Mrs. Ben. P. Major, Dr. Benson, Mr. Kidwell, and a colored man, also died. Several others had the disease, but recovered. Great excitement and alarm prevailed, and many people left town. The farmers were afraid to come to Warsaw, and business for some time was almost wholly suspended. I believe this is the only instance in which the cholera has ever visited the County.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE OSAGE.

During the period now under consideration, (1844 to 1861,) considerable effort was made to improve the navigation of the Osage river. In 1839, an act was passed to establish a general system of internal improvements in the State of Missouri, and under this act Mr. Henry King surveyed the Osage River and made a report, which is published in the Senate Journal of 1840. The act was repealed in 1841, and I think no other work was done under it on the Osage.

In 1847 an act was passed organizing the "Osage River Association," a company consisting of the counties along the river, and such individuals as might take stock in it. The counties were authorized to invest their road and canal, and internal improvement funds, in the association, and also to levy a tax for the improvement of the river. James W. Field, of Benton County, was appointed director by the act, with power to organize the company. D. C. Ballou, who was in the legislature when the act was passed, was appointed director for Benton County by the County Court, in 1852. I think some work on the wing dams was done by this association, but how much I am unable to determine.

By an act of February 14, 1855, this association was dissolved, and \$50,000 was appropriated for work on the river. Sydney R. Roberts, of Linn Creek, James Atkinson, of Warsaw, and William L. Vaughn, of Osceola, were appointed commissioners to superintend the work. Under this act the last work on the river in Benton County was done. Some work has since been done near the mouth of the river, under appropriations made by Congress, between 1868 and 1872. Experience has demonstrated that the wing dam system of improvement, on which all the work has been done, is of no permanent benefit, but probably an actual injury to the navigation of the river. In 1847, 1849, 1868, 1870, 1871, 1873 and 1874, memorials were passed by the Legislature, earnestly urging Congress to grant aid for the improvement of the Osage.

KANSAS WAR.

Benton County participated to a large extent in the excitement growing out of the slavery contest in Kansas in 1855-59. In the summer of 1856, a most inflammatory proclamation was issued by Gen. Atchison, B. F. Stringfellow, and others, calling on Missouri-

ans to rally and protect southern settlers in Kansas. In response to the call, a company of about 50 was raised at Warsaw, James McElrath, James E. Barkley, W. D. Barkley and Arnold B. Whipple being leading men. They joined Col. Reid at West Port, in Jackson County, and marched on to Gen. Lane and John Brown's Free State forces at Lawrence. Through the intervention of the U. S. forces, both parties were disbanded, and the Benton County men returned home, after having been out about two weeks.

XIV.

CHURCHES.

I desired to give an account of the organization of the first Churches in the County, but have been able to get correct information in only a few cases.

I think the first Church ever organized in the County, was Antioch Church, of Primitive Baptists, which now worships, and has a neat building, on North Prairie, four miles northwest of Cross Timbers, in Hickory County. It was organized at the house of Washington Young, in the Richwoods, in 1833. Elders James Richardson and Elijah Williams being the first ministers. The first members were James Dawson, John Potter, Daniel Lake, Elizabeth Lake, Nancy Young, Ann Foster, Nancy Holloway, Nellie Dawson and James Richardson. The preachers for this Church have been James Richardson, James H. Baker, Hezekiah Parker, Daniel Briggs, Marquis Monroe and Marcus Walker.

Another early Church was organized June 24, 1842, at the house of James H. Lay, on Little Tebo. Elder L. Elgin was the first preacher, and Marcellus F. Dunn, Meshac Willis, James H. Lay, William Jeans, Jeremiah Bess and Josephus Gill the first members. This was the beginning of what was afterwards known as Bethel Christian Church. Among the Ministers who have preached at this Church, were Elgin, Heremond, D. de Jarnette, Allan Wright, Winthrop H. Hopson, Charles Carlton, McGarvey, and George W. Longan, the latter a man of rare ability and piety, having long been the chief support of the Church. A good house was built, but the congregation was broken up by the war, and no regular preaching has been had since. A few of the members still meet in the neighborhood occasionally for worship.

I think that about the same time this Church was organized, another was organized by Elder Elgin, at Warsaw, which has continued, with many vicissitudes, to the present time. It built the brick Church known as the Christian Church, in War-

saw, about 1855. Geo. W. Longan was also the chief spirit of this Church.

The Presbyterian Church, in Warsaw, was organized at an early day,—the exact time I have not ascertained. The brick Church was built about 1849. This Church, in its best days, was in charge of Rev. J. V. Barks, an able and most exemplary minister.

The Baptist Church in the Vinson neighborhood, near Lincoln, and Wesley Chapel, a Methodist Church, near the same place, were early Churches. Their members were scattered by the war, and solitude again broods among the forest trees which for years resounded with the songs of the early worshippers.

XV.

NEWSPAPERS.

In August, 1840, Mr. E. Cameron started the *Osage Banner*, a Whig paper, at Warsaw. It suspended in about nine months. The *Osage Valley*, a Democratic paper, was started by Bevin & Co. (E. Cameron being the Co.), early in 1842. Bevin was an eccentric man, rode around the country with a large box of papers tied behind his saddle, seeking subscribers, became noted for his oddities, and finally, things not going to suit him, he walked into the river, on a cold day, up to his chin, with the purpose of drowning himself. He thought better of it, however, and walked out again and left the country, his paper being suspended. In 1843 W. T. Yeomans started the *Osage Yeoman*, Democratic, and in the spring of 1845 Cameron & Ritchie bought it out, and began to publish the *Saturday Morning Visitor*, neutral in polities. In 1848 its name was changed to the *Warsaw Weekly Whig*, and it was published as a Whig paper by E. Cameron & Co., Ritchey being the Co. About 1850 Cameron went to Osceola, and Ritchey continued to publish the paper as the *Democratic Review*, until it was bought out by Murray & Leach, and published as the *South West Democrat*. The *South West Democrat*, at the beginning of the war, had attained a large circulation, and possessed as much influence as any paper in South West Missouri. Mark L. Means, who wielded a vigorous pen, did the chief political writing for it, and shaped public sentiment to a large extent. The paper was a strong advocate of the Southern cause, until it was suspended by the enlistment of its proprietors in the Southern army. Mr. Leach was one of the first to fall in the war, being killed at Cole Camp.

After the war, Messrs. Smith & Reed, in the fall of 1865, established the *Warsaw Times* as a Republican paper. It has been published ever since by Mr. Smith, making its age over ten years, the greatest ever attained by any paper in the County.

In 1866 Messrs Soyster & Edmondson began the publication of the *Benton County Index*, a Democratic paper. It suspended about 1869. About 1870 F. D. Harkrider established the *Benton County Democrat*, and in 1872 sold it to Ben R. Lingle, who conducted it till 1874, and sold to Messrs. Woodbury. They sold to C. H.

Lucas, in 1875. It passed from him into the hands of a company, and is now conducted as the *Democratic Press*, by Jas. R. Jones, editor.

XVI.

WAR OF 1861.

To the war of 1861, I propose to make only a very general allusion. Its events are yet too recent to admit of a narration of details, without reviving memories which should sleep.

At the breaking out of the war, most of the prominent politicians of the County were southern men. The *Southwest Democrat*, an influential paper, espoused the southern cause with great vigor. When the news of the attack on Fort Sumter came, the wildest excitement prevailed, and two companies were soon organized at Warsaw, under the state law, for resistance to the Federal government. The first, called the Grays, was commanded by Capt. O'Kane, a graduate of West Point; the second, called the Blues, by Dr. Stephen F. Hale, an old resident of the County. After the attack on Camp Jackson at St. Louis, they were called to Jefferson City by Gov. Jackson, but soon returned. In the meantime the Germans around Cole Camp, who were universally loyal, organized as Home Guards, and camped at the barns of Henry Heisterberg and Harmon Harms, about two miles east of Cole Camp. They numbered several hundred, and were commanded by Capt. A. H. W. Cook. The Warsaw companies had received reports that the Home Guards were preparing to march on Warsaw, and on the evening of June 18, 1861, they forestalled them by marching out to Cole Camp. One or more companies from Henry County were co-operating with them. Their movements were made so quietly, that about dawn on the morning of the 19th, they attacked the barns and took the Home Guards by surprise. They were generally asleep until awakened by the fire of the assailants. Being untrained militia, and thrown into confusion by the suddenness of the attack, they made but little resistance, but fled in all directions. It is said that from fifty to one hundred were killed in the attack and pursuit. I think the exact number who fell was never known. The Warsaw companies lost six men—Jno. H.

Leach, editor of the *Democrat*, A. B. Whipple, a lawyer, Rice Howser, post master at Warsaw, Wm. Gill, Allen Kemper and George Teft. The affairs at Boonville and Camp Jackson, which occurred about the same time, are of much greater notoriety, but the Cole Camp battle was a more bloody contest than either of them.

A few days after the fight, Gov. Jackson's forces came through Warsaw from Boonville, in retreat before Gen. Lyon. The Warsaw companies followed south; were in the battles at Carthage and Wilson's Creek, and returned to Warsaw in August, soon after the latter battle. After the attack on Lexington, the southern forces were compelled to retreat before Gen. Fremont's army, in the fall of 1861, and the County remained under the control of the Union men till the close of the war, with the exception of occasional raids and bushwhacking expeditions.

Some time in the winter of 1861-2, Gen. Ed. Price, son of Gen. Sterling Price, came through the County with a large force of recruits, and camped at Warsaw at night. During the night he was overtaken by a force of Federals and captured, at the house of Judge Wright. His men were on the south side of the river and escaped.

In the year of 1862, the enrolled Militia and Missouri State Militia were organized, and a detachment of one of these organizations was generally stationed in the County. In September, 1863, Shelby came through the county, on his raid, and gave the Militia and citizens of Warsaw a general stampede; supplied himself with goods at the stores, tore out the records of the County that had been made under Union jurisdiction, and hastened on to the Missouri river.

At the time of Price's retreat from Missouri, in the fall of 1864, several hundred of his men came through this County, shot Jas. D. Perkins, the Circuit Attorney, in the streets of Warsaw, and on their way out, through the Richwoods, killed other citizens. In the spring of 1865, a small band, on its way from the south, came through the southern part of the County and killed several citizens; came to the river bank, opposite Warsaw, exchanged a few shots with the citizens, but passed on to the Missouri river without attempting to enter the town. One of them, named Hill, was arrested in Lafayette County, and put in the Warsaw jail, but was taken out in the night and shot.

The above leading events, very inadequately, represent the connection of the people of Benton County with the war. While some lives were lost, and much property taken by the organized forces of both sides, the people of the County suffered chiefly from the lawlessness which resulted from the war. Evil disposed persons made a pretense of espousing either side for the purpose of plunder, or of wreaking private malice. The insecurity of property and of life, became so great that a large portion of the best citizens left their homes. Many peaceable citizens were killed, houses and fencing were burned, and the ordinary course of business, to a great degree, suspended. Farmers ceased all kinds of improvement, and many improved farms lay idle. Lands were sold at ruinous prices, or abandoned unsold. But the return of peace soon revived the energies of the people, and the population and wealth of the County in a short time exceeded what it was before the war.

CONCLUSION.

I have thus spoken of the more important events in the history of the County to a time still fresh in the memory of the present inhabitants. The want of time, the difficulties of giving an impartial account of events so recent, and the little necessity, as yet, for committing an account of this later time to writing, warn me to stop at this point.

What I have written is only one feature, and a minor one, of the history of the County—its public life. Its private life, which is its real history, is too infinite in its details for narration. The parting from friends, and the early associations of childhood; the tedious journey to the land of hope in the west; the solitude of the camp fire, and the cabin in the wilderness; the struggle with poverty, toil and disease; the weary pining for the old home; the loss of husbands, wives and children in a land of strangers; the discouragement and return of some, the perseverance and better fortune of others; the melting of the forest before the axe of the pioneer; the spread of bountiful fields; the erection of comfortable, and in many cases, of beautiful homes; of churches and school houses; the formation of new ties in place of the old ones; the growth of a generation for whom this has the sacred associations of fatherland—all this is the chief history of Benton County, but is too endless to be written in a general sketch. “Happy are the people whose annals are dull.”

APPENDIX.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

1835. Charles H. Allen.	Feb. 1859. Foster P. Wright.
1837. Foster P. Wright.	1862. Burr H. Emerson.
Sept. 1851. Waldo P. Johnson.	1874. William S. Shirk.
" 1854. Dewitt C. Ballou.	

CIRCUIT ATTORNEYS.

1838. Littleberry Hendricks.	1855. Washington Galland. Vice Perkins.
1840. George Dixon. Resigned in 1843.	1856. David P. Shields. Vice Galland.
1843. Mark L. Means. Vice Dixon.	1855. Samuel S. Burdett. Vice Shields.
1844. Thomas Ruffin.	1858. William S. Shirk. Vice Burdett.
1848. Waldo P. Johnson.	1868. James Masters.
1852. Burr H. Emerson.	1872. William S. Shirk. Office abolished.
1856. Thomas W. Freeman.	1872. Dee Reese.....County Attorney.
1858. Thomas W. Freeman.	1874. Augustus C. Barry "
1860. Alexis Wamsley,	
1862. James D. Perkins.	

REPRESENTATIVES OF BENTON COUNTY.

1836. Zachariah Fewell.	1858. Samuel Parks.
1838. Joseph C. Montgomery.	1860. Dewitt C. Ballou.
1840. Samuel H. Whipple.	1862. Richard H. Melton.
1842. Samuel H. Whipple.	1864. Richard H. Melton.
1844. Dewitt C. Ballou.	1866. John Cosgrove
1846. Dewitt C. Ballou.	1868. John H. Bohn.
1848. Dewitt C. Ballou.	1870. John H. Bohn.
1850. Burr H. Emerson.	1872. H. D. Heimsath.
1852. James Atkisson.	1874. Samuel Parks. Died Jan. 19, 1875.
1854. A. G. Blakey.	1875. James H. Lay. Vice Parks, Feb.
1856. A. G. Blakey.	8, 1875.

COUNTY JUDGES OF BENTON COUNTY.

1835. Joseph C. Montgomery, John W. Lindsey and William White. Appointed by Gov. Daniel Dunklin.	
1836. John W. Lindsey, William White, George Alexander. Judge Lindsey died in 1840, and Stephen A. Howser was appointed to fill the vacancy till the Aug. election.	
1840. George Alexander, Elijah Cherry, Nathan Huff. Judge Cherry resigned Aug. 15, 1842, and Adamson Cornwall was appointed to fill the vacancy.	
1842. George Alexander, Adamson Cornwall and Henry Y. Elbert.	
1844. Adamson Cornwall, Joel B. Holbert and Markham Fristoe. Hickory County being organized in 1845, and Judge Holbert living in that County, ceased to be Judge. Judge Cornwall died on the bench. Burr H. Emerson became Judge in 1845, in place of Judge Holbert, by appointment of Gov. John C. Edwards.	
1848. George W. Rives, Samuel Parks, Henry L. Hicks.	
1852. George W. Rives, Alexander Richey, Edward T. Major.	
1854. George W. Rives, Edward H. Powers, and James G. Vinson.	
1856. George W. Rives, Markham Fristoe, Joshua G. Phillips.	

1860. Markham Fristoe, Joshua G. Phillips, Stephen H. Davis. Ousted by convention of 1862.

1862. Elemelech S. Drake, David Kidwell and Thomas Jackman. Judge Drake resigned, and Harrison H. Ham took his seat as successor, on Jan. 26, 1863.

1866. Harrison H. Ham, Dauiel Freund, Joseph Monroe.

1868. Joseph Monroe, Daniel Freund and Sewell W. Smith.

1870. Joseph Monroe, Sewell W. Smith, Peter E. Holtzen.

1872. Sewell W. Smith, Peter E. Holtzen, Stephen H. Davis.

1874. Peter E. Holtzen, Stephen H. Davis and George Gallaher.

PROBATE COURT.

1867 to 1876. Harrison H. Ham, Probate Judge.

CIRCUIT CLERKS.

1835. Thomas J. Bishop.	1866. Myron L. Stratton.
Jan. 1854. Henry F. Burns.	1870. Myron L. Stratton. Died
Dec. 1854. Edward T. Major. Ousted by Convention in 1862.	July, 1871.
1862. Benjamin F. Bibb. Deputies, F. A. Hanford, Willis C. Hall, R. H. Bibb, Morris Foster and A. Tillotson.	July 27, 1871. Jas. R. Jones. Vice Stratton.
	1871. Eli T. Rhea. Vice Jones.
	1874. Eli T Rhea.

COUNTY CLERKS.

Same as Circuit Clerks up to 1866.	1870. Stewart C. Stratton.
1866. David E. Fields.	1874. Stewart C. Stratton.

PROBATE CLERKS.

Same as County Clerks up to 1867.	
July 8, 1867. David E. Fields.	Nov. 22, 1873. Wilson H. Stratton.

SHERIFFS AND COLLECTORS OF BENTON COUNTY.

1835. Markham Fristoe.	21, 1854.
1835. Stephen A. Howser, Collector.	1854. John C. Arthur.
1836. Adamson Cornwall.	1856. John C. Arthur.
1838. James W. Smith.	1858. Bartholomew W. Keown.
1840. James W. Smith. Resigns Aug. 15th, 1842. H. L. Williams, appointed.	1860. Bartholomew W. Keown.
1842. Harvey L. Williams.	1862. John A. Baldwin.
1844. Bartholomew W. Keown.	1864. Samuel Webb.
1846. Bartholomew W. Keown.	1866. Harrison Mitchell.
1848. Abraham Sally.	1868. Harrison Mitchell.
1852. Seth B. Howard. Died in 1854. J. C. Arthur succeeded him, April	1870. Mathew Pierce.
	1872. Mathew Pierce.
	1874. George Hooper, Sheriff.
	1874. Edward R. Powers, Collector.

TREASURERS.

Feb. 18, 1835. John Holloway.	Mch. 2, 1861. James E. Barkley.
Apr. 22, 1839. Samuel H. Whipple. Resigned July 13, 1840.	1862. James Spencer.
July 31, 1840. James A. Brown.	1863. John N. Dunn.
Oct. 1844. Horace H. White. Resigned Oct. 23, 1849.	1868. Nicholas S. Gardner.
Oct. 25, 1849. Jno. S. Lingle.	1872. Jerome D. Briggs.
Aug. 1860. Joseph S. Atkisson. Resigned March 2.	1874. Robert T. Sill. Resigned Feb. 1876.
	Feb. 1876. Arthur S. McGowan. Vice Sill.

ASSESSORS.

Feb. 16, 1835.	Hugh M. Donaghe.	to serve till August election.
Feb. 7, 1837.	James W. Smith.	1880. William B. McElwraith.
1838.	John Graham, Sr.	1862. Henry Hubbard, resigned
1840.	John Graham, Sr.	August 22, 1861.
1842.	Meredith Bowmer.	1864. Jacob Freund appointed
1844.	Meredith Bowmer.	August 22.
1846.	Montgomery Wright.	1864. Jacob Freund.
1848.	Meredith Bowmer.	1866. Jacob Freund.
1850.	Meredith Bowmer.	1868. Jacob Freund.
1852.	Montgomery Wright.	1870. Jacob Freund died.
1854.	Willis Jones.	Dec. 2, 1871. Jas. R. Jones appointed, vice Freund.
1856.	Alexander H. Russell.	1872. Willis Jones.
1859.	County assessed by District Assessors.	1874. Alpheus G. Huse.
Feb. 7, 1860.	James W. Taylor appointed	

COUNTY SURVEYORS.*

Feb. 1835.	Jessee F. Royston.	1848. John S. Lingle.
Aug. 1835.	C. P. Bullock. Resigned 1838.	1854. John A. Baldwin.
1839.	D. C. Ballou.	1864. John A. Baldwin.
1840.	James Blakemore.	1868. James A. Harvey.
1841.	James Blakemore.	1872. A. M. McIntyre.
1845.	Sardis D. Baldwin. Resigned Aug. 24, 1847.	

*Possibly this list is incomplete.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS.

Mar. 19, 1844.	James M. Blakey, resigns.	1866. John H. Bohn.
Mar. 18, 1845.	James H. Lay. Ousted by Convention of 1862.	1870. George Hooper.
Dec. 1862.	George I. Shepherd.	1872. Preston W. Duckworth.
July 1863.	Elemelech S. Drake.	1874. John F. Mahnken.

POPULATION OF WARSAW.

1814.....	516	1860.....	612
1848.....	560	1861.....	370
1852.....	411	1868.....	440
1856.....	505	1870.....	498

POPULATION OF BENTON COUNTY.

1836.....	1,512	1856.....	6,789
1840.....	4,205	1880.....	79,072
1844.....	5,661	1864.....	4,975
1848.....	*5,137	1868.....	8,519
1850.....	5,015	1870.....	11,322
1852.....	4,613		

* This falling off was occasioned by the cutting off of about one-third of the County into Hickory.

† State census for 1860, 9,021.

